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Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

Fifty-fourth session
(2-27 June 2014)

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Note

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Chapter I
Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held its organizational session (1st meeting) on 24 April 2014 and its substantive session from 2 to 27 June 2014 at United Nations Headquarters. It held a total of 22 meetings and numerous informal consultations.

A. Agenda

2. The agenda for the fifty-fourth session, adopted by the Committee at its organizational session (1st meeting), is contained in annex I to the present report.

Selection of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

3. At its 1st meeting, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the note by the Secretariat (E/AC.51/2014/L.2) submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 59/267, in which the Secretariat stated that there were no relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit available to submit for consideration by the Committee at its organizational session.

Programme of work

4. At the same meeting, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation (E/AC.51/2014/L.1/Rev.1), listing the documents for consideration by the Committee.

5. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 June, the Committee approved its tentative and provisional programme of work for the session with the understanding that adjustments would be made by the Bureau, as necessary, during the course of the session.

6. Following the 2nd meeting, the Secretary of the Committee gave an informal briefing on organizational matters of the session and the Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division gave an informal briefing on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017.

B. Election of officers

7. At its 1st meeting, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Gheorghe Leuca (Republic of Moldova) as Vice-Chair of the Committee for the fifty-fourth session.

8. At its 2nd meeting, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Ramadhan Mwinyi (United Republic of Tanzania) as Chair of the Committee for the session. At the same meeting, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Hiroshi Onuma (Japan) as Rapporteur of the Committee for the session.

9. At its 19th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Robert Harrison (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Imelda Smolcic (Uruguay) as Vice-Chairs of the Committee for the session.

10. The members of the Bureau for the fifty-fourth session of the Committee are listed below:

Chair:
Ramadhan Mwinyi (United Republic of Tanzania)

Vice-Chairs:
Gheorghe Leuca (Republic of Moldova)
Robert Harrison (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
Imelda Smolcic (Uruguay)

Rapporteur:
Hiroshi Onuma (Japan)

C. Attendance

11. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented on the Committee:

Argentina
Belarus
Benin
Botswana
Brazil
Bulgaria
Cameroon
China
Cuba
El Salvador
Ethiopia
France
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Haiti
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Italy
Japan
Kazakhstan
Malaysia
Morocco
Pakistan
Peru
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Russian Federation
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Uruguay
Zimbabwe

12. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Algeria
Austria
Burkina Faso
Egypt
Ireland
Israel
Kenya
Lebanon
Mexico
Sri Lanka
Switzerland

13. The following intergovernmental organization was represented as an observer: the European Union.

14. Also present at the session were the Chef de Cabinet of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General; the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management; the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; the Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Africa; the Deputy High Representative for Disarmament Affairs; the Under-Secretary-General for Field

Support; the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, Department of Peacekeeping Operations; the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, Legal Counsel; the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, Department of Economic and Social Affairs; the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; the Executive Director of the International Trade Centre; the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme; the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme; the Assistant Secretary-General for Intergovernmental Support and Strategic Partnerships, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; the Acting Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva and Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe; the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees; the Under-Secretary-General for Management; the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services; the Assistant Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services; the Under-Secretary-General and Acting Head of the Department of Safety and Security; the Executive Secretary of the International Civil Service Commission; the Executive Secretary of the Joint Inspection Unit; the Director of the Secretariat of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination; and other senior officials of the Secretariat.

15. The following programmes or parts of programmes of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 were discussed by videoconference: programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management; programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space; programme 6, Legal affairs; programme 9, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development; programme 10, Trade and development; programme 11, Environment; programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice; programme 15, Economic and social development in Africa; programme 16, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific; programme 17, Economic development in Europe; programme 18, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean; programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia; programme 20, Human rights; programme 21, International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees; programme 25, Management and support services; and programme 27, Jointly financed activities.

D. Documentation

16. The list of documents before the Committee at its fifty-fourth session is set out in annex II.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

17. At the 22nd meeting, on 27 June, the Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Committee (E/AC.51/2014/L.4 and Add.1-33).

18. Before the adoption of the draft report, the representatives of Cuba, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Belarus orally corrected the provisional versions of addenda 32, 27 and 25, respectively, to the draft report on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, on programme 25, Management and support services, programme 26, Internal oversight, and programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice (E/AC.51/2014/L.4/Add.32, 27 and 25).

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft report, as orally amended, on the work of its fifty-fourth session (E/AC.51/2014/L.4 and Add.1-33).

20. After the adoption of the draft report, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Cuba, Japan, Uruguay, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Italy. Before the closure of the session, the Chair of the Committee made a statement.

Chapter II
Programme questions

A. Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013

21. At its 3rd and 5th meetings, on 2 and 3 June 2014, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/69/144).

22. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme performance report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

23. Some delegations expressed their appreciation for the report and noted with satisfaction its added value and usefulness in informing the budgetary and planning process. Delegations indicated that the programme performance report constituted an important management and accountability tool. Other delegations noted that the report would be more useful if the narrative part could be reduced and more emphasis were placed on results and impact rather than outputs. One delegation stated that any format changes by the Secretariat to the report would require an express mandate given by the General Assembly in a resolution.

24. The Secretariat was commended for achieving an output implementation rate of 91 per cent for mandated outputs, which was one percentage point higher than in the previous biennium. A view was expressed that the presentation of information in chapter 3 had improved, although more explanation was requested on the formulas used to calculate different implementation rates and the difference between quantifiable and non-quantifiable outputs.

25. Concern was expressed about the low implementation rates of safety and security, disarmament and public information programmes and the high rate of additional programmatic outputs of the human rights programme. A view was expressed that programmes should operate strictly on the basis of mandated outputs according to the approved programme budget.

26. It was noted that the rate of terminations of outputs owing to vacancies had decreased. The Secretariat was asked what measures had been taken to guarantee a low vacancy rate and minimize its impact on performance. In addition, a general question was raised on common reasons for terminations in 2012-2013 and on the effect of those terminations on the biennial programme performance. An inquiry was also made regarding the specific legislative document used by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to justify the termination of its outputs owing to legislative reasons.

27. While reviewing the accomplishments of the individual programmes, a view was expressed that together with the revisions to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the work performed by the Department of Management in 2012-2013 on the proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of

Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation should also have been referenced in the report under the common support services programme.

28. Several delegations emphasized that in the assessment of expected accomplishments contained in the programme performance report, reference was made to the proposal of the Secretary-General on the paper-smart concept. Delegations reminded the Secretariat that the concept was being implemented on a trial basis and that no specific mandate had been given to the Secretariat by the General Assembly to fully implement the paper-smart initiative.

Conclusions and recommendations

29. **The Committee stressed the importance of the Secretariat using programme performance reports as a management tool in the strategic framework planning process, in line with the principles of results-based management, including by regularly reviewing programme performance.**

30. **The Committee noted the information provided in the report regarding the strains on some programme budgets and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to provide information on their impact on programme implementation in future reports.**

31. **The Committee noted that the report did not contain information requested by the General Assembly, upon its recommendation, on the impact of the reduction in the number of printed documents on the intergovernmental decision-making process in United Nations conferences and meetings. It therefore recommended that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to pursue the full implementation of the decision in future programme performance reports.**

32. **The Committee noted the information provided on the delivery of paper-smart services to several meetings, including high-level meetings. In that context, it recalled that the implementation of the paper-smart concept was being implemented on a pilot basis, as decided by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/233.**

33. **In addition, with the purpose of improving the presentation of the report, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to include in future reports, under each section of the programme, the following information:**

(a) **A comparison with the previous biennium of the rate of implementation of mandated outputs;**

(b) **A comparison with the previous biennium of additional outputs implemented at the initiative of the Secretariat;**

(c) **Information on the main factors affecting the implementation of mandated outputs, when the rate of implementation for the biennium was below 90 per cent.**

B. Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017

Part one
Plan outline

34. At its 7th meeting, on 4 June 2014, the Committee considered part one, plan outline, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Part one) and Corr.1).

35. The Chef de Cabinet introduced the plan outline and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the plan outline.

Discussion

36. Appreciation and support were expressed for the presentation of the document, which reflected the strategies to be applied in achieving the longer-term objectives of the Organization in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly. Some delegations, recognizing that the outline was an overarching document that could not cover all aspects of the Organization's work, commended the Secretary-General on preparing a good outline that covered the priorities. Other delegations said the outline could have been more ambitious and less gloomy.

37. Concern was expressed regarding the non-inclusion of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in addition to matters pertaining to outer space, oceans and seas, in the plan outline. Attention was drawn to other important issues not included in the outline, such as the right to development, managed migration and refugees. The view was expressed that the outline should have included aspects of risk management, which should fall under the purview of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.

38. Support was expressed for the eight priority areas identified in the plan outline. Appreciation was expressed for the inclusion of priorities focusing on countries in special circumstances, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and countries in conflict where the most vulnerable persons were marginalized.

39. Views were expressed regarding the need for common development as a longer-term objective of the Organization, given that that would be the basis for sustainable development. Poverty eradication was identified as a priority area. It was said that the Organization shouldered a primary and irreplaceable role in maintaining peace and security and in preventive diplomacy.

40. Concern was expressed regarding the direct link between youth unemployment and violence, which appeared to focus only on youth and not on other areas that could also contribute to violence. The view was expressed that the relationship between organized crime and intra-State and inter-State conflict was not symbiotic. Organized crime could be transnational and not necessarily linked to such conflict.

41. Attention was drawn to the difficulties faced by developing countries in implementing sustainable management of natural resources and clarification was sought on how that matter was taken into account by intergovernmental forums.

42. A question was raised as to whether the United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III) had been approved. Clarification

was sought on the negotiations of the new development goals after 2015 and how that would be reflected in the strategic framework for 2016-2017.

43. Clarification was also sought regarding the use of such terms as "Member State groupings", "peacekeeping reform measures", "partnership with contributing countries", "intra-State conflict" and "external actors", in addition to the determination and measurement of "gross and systematic violations of human rights".

44. Clarification was further sought on the possible duplication of functions relating to post-conflict rehabilitation between the United Nations, the Peacebuilding Commission and the United Nations Development Programme.

45. Appreciation was expressed for efforts to keep the issue of Africa high on the Organization's agenda. The view was expressed that, although the Organization, in order to take the core development of Africa forward, needed to strengthen security in Africa by providing close support to, and working in partnership with, the African Union, as well as by establishing close collaborative relations with regional and subregional organizations, the relationship should be one of reciprocity.

46. Appreciation was expressed to United Nations staff serving in unsafe locations. Clarification was provided on action taken by the Organization to protect its staff. On the issue of humanitarian assistance efforts, in particular increasing accessibility problems, unsafe operating environments and decreasing respect for United Nations immunity in the field, concern was expressed regarding the recent establishment of intervention brigades in the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

47. Clarification was sought as to who was responsible for determining gross and systematic violations of human rights. Concern was expressed regarding the secondary role given to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in view of the fact that it did not benefit from resources from the regular budget. With regard to disarmament and development, clarification was sought on the implementation of educational and outreach programmes and training and advisory services.

48. Appreciation was expressed for the inclusion of General Assembly resolution 66/257 on progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat. Concern was expressed, however, that Assembly resolution 68/264, which addressed the same subject, had not been included.

49. Clarification was sought on the total cost, scope and application of the enterprise resource planning project (Umoja) and on the problems identified during the implementation phase, especially in field offices. It was said that better management of Umoja, the International Public Sector Accounting Standards and the global field support strategy was critical. Queries were raised as to whether other initiatives were being implemented to increase the effectiveness of the Organization.

50. The Organization's continued focus on measurability and impact, including by improving the link between indicators of achievement and expected accomplishments, was welcomed. Concern was raised as to how to measure programmes that depended not only on the Organization or Member States, but also on external factors. Views were expressed on the use of better indicators focusing on mandates affecting people's lives.

51. Serious concern was expressed regarding the instruction given to programme managers by the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts to reduce the length of their respective biennial programmes, which had the sole purpose of generating savings without taking into account the very political nature and delicate political balance of the programmes. In addition, the instruction ignored the fact that the content of the programmes was the result of extensive and difficult negotiations among Member States.

52. Delegations expressed great regret at the above-mentioned decision, which had had a negative impact on the negotiations of the strategic framework, the normal development of the session of the Committee and the positive environment needed for the negotiations and the decision-making process.

53. Other delegations expressed the view that the proposed modifications were within the purview of the Secretary-General as Chief Administrative Officer and were in line with the existing rules and regulations of the United Nations.

54. Concern was expressed over the lack of consistency in the consideration of the proposed biennial programme plan by sectoral, functional and regional bodies. Delegations considered that the Secretary-General should guarantee the implementation of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).

55. The need for the Secretariat to fully implement all decisions adopted by Member States and to fully respect the distinct roles of the principal bodies, as contained in the Charter of the United Nations, was reiterated. It was noted that the proposed strategic framework did not include the specific measures and information on action taken by the Secretary-General to promote a culture of accountability within the Secretariat, as decided by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/236.

56. Delegations acknowledged the actions of the Secretariat aimed at contributing to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals. In that context, they reiterated the need for the Secretary-General to give assurances that actions of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, including those relating to the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda, were in full compliance with the decisions of Member States. Delegations expressed regret at the inclusion of concepts, objectives and indicators of achievement without specific intergovernmental mandates, including some that could be interpreted as a partial approach of the Secretariat to the positions of some countries or group of countries.

57. Delegations reiterated that the expected accomplishments and performance indicators measured the Secretariat, not the Member States. In that context, concern was expressed regarding the inclusion of proposals that went beyond the prerogative of the Secretariat, including some that interfered with the sovereignty of Member States.

Conclusions and recommendations

58. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the eight priorities for the period 2016-2017, as set out in paragraph 34 of the plan outline (A/69/6 (Part one) and Corr.1).**

59. **In view of the differences among Member States on some aspects of the plan outline, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly review the plan outline at its sixty-ninth session, under the agenda item entitled "Programme planning".**

Programme 1
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

60. At its 6th meeting, on 4 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 1)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1/Add.1.

61. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

62. Delegations expressed general support for the overall objectives of the programme and recognized the importance of services provided to the Member States by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management.

63. The progress achieved in the integrated global management of conference services in the four duty stations for improving the quality and efficiency of conference services was appreciated. Clarification was sought on how the four duty stations were being coordinated under the integrated global management of conference services.

64. It was recognized that the services provided by the Department had an impact on the work of the Member States, and it was emphasized that ensuring the balance between quality and timeliness in the processing and issuance of documents and the provision of services was of utmost importance.

65. It was recalled that, in its resolution on multilingualism, the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services were given equal treatment. It was emphasized that the principles of multilingualism in the United Nations should be fully implemented and that that should not in any way compromise the quality of services rendered. The view was expressed that multilingualism was of utmost importance for non-English-speaking countries, and it was observed that some documents were available in English only.

66. Some delegations expressed support for the progress made in the implementation of the pilot project relating to the paper-smart initiative. At the same time, concerns were expressed by some delegations regarding the implementation of the initiative given that there was no mandate from the General Assembly.

67. The question was raised as to how the Department would address the issue of accessibility for people with disabilities.

68. Clarification was sought as to why reference to retired language staff, who had experience and contributed to the quality of documentation, had been omitted from

the strategy under subprogramme 3. Clarification was also sought as to the impact that retired staff had on the Department in the context of possible loss of institutional memory.

69. Regarding subprogrammes 3 and 4 relating to the four duty stations, clarification was sought with regard to the provision contained in the new indicator of achievement relating to the expansion of the freelance staff rosters in all languages and disciplines by at least 15 per cent.

70. A question was raised as to what additional efforts were being made to adopt the use of new technologies to further realize efficiencies and effectiveness by expanding the use of electronic tools.

71. Delegations noted the changes proposed by the Committee on Conferences, contained in annex II to conference room paper E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1/Add.1.

Conclusions and recommendations

72. **The Committee welcomed the Department's efforts to promote greater efficiencies in the delivery of quality conference services in order to support the intergovernmental processes and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to further such efficiencies within the Department.**

73. **The Committee stressed the need for the Secretariat to apply common standards for quality control of documents processed by external translators in all four duty stations in order to ensure high-quality translations in all six official languages.**

74. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed strategic framework, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 1.3

At the beginning of the paragraph, insert the following:

The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management at Headquarters and the conference-servicing organizational entities at the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi are responsible for the implementation of the programme and the achievement of its objectives.

After the words "Guided by Assembly resolutions 57/300", add "66/233".

At the end of the paragraph, add the following:

The Department will continue to provide, in a proactive manner, the intergovernmental and expert bodies it services with technical, procedural and substantive secretariat, protocol and liaison, and conference-servicing support so as to achieve synergies and full-system benefits across the four conference-servicing duty stations.

Paragraph 1.4

In the sixth sentence, after the words "Those efforts", insert "subject to the provisions of the above-mentioned General Assembly resolutions".

Paragraph 1.5

Replace "provide better quality assurance of the expanded contractual translation services" with "provide better quality assurance of the translation services, including contractual services".

Paragraph 1.6

Replace the existing text with the following:

1. An effort will be made to build a larger and more balanced pool of qualified language staff across languages and duty stations by encouraging promising candidates to apply for open positions through various means, including the revamped competitive language examination process, the Department's Universities Outreach Programme and internships and traineeships, in compliance with United Nations recruitment standards regarding language staff. The programme will continue to emphasize the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into its subprogrammes.

A. Conference management, New York

Subprogramme 1
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), delete the word "written".

In indicator of achievement (b), replace the existing text with "100 per cent compliance with the submission deadline for parliamentary documentation and efficient and effective interdepartmental support to the intergovernmental bodies, with equal treatment given to all official languages".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.7 (b)

After the words "the Economic and Social Council", insert "and its subsidiary bodies".

Paragraph 1.7 (c)

Replace the existing text with "Assistance to representatives of Member States on all matters relating to the effective scheduling and conduct of meetings, including the provision of an advance programme of work and the timely issuance of documentation and communications in all official languages".

Subprogramme 2
Planning and coordination of conference services

Strategy

Paragraph 1.8 (b) (i)

After the words "Ensuring the timely availability", insert "in all official languages".

Paragraph 1.8 (c)

After the words "Member States and meeting participants", insert "in all official languages".

Paragraph 1.8 (d)

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "in all official languages".

Paragraph 1.8 (g)

After the words "outreach to clients", insert "in accordance with legislative mandates".

Subprogramme 3
Documentation services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after the words "other written materials", insert "in all official languages".

In expected accomplishment (b), after the words "without adversely affecting", replace the existing text with "the quality and scope of services, as mandated by relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add indicator (c) (ii), reading "(ii) Reduced imbalances across language combinations".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.9

After subparagraph (b), insert a new subparagraph (c), reading:

(c) No changes of a substantive nature made to texts of both draft and adopted resolutions agreed by Member States during the Secretariat's editing process.

Rename former subparagraphs (c) and (d) as subparagraphs (d) and (e), respectively.

Subprogramme 4
Meetings and publishing services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the existing text with "High-quality interpretation, verbatim reporting, copy-editing, desktop publishing, printing, distribution and meetings services in all official languages".

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), add "without adversely affecting the quality and scope of services, as mandated by relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add indicator (c) (ii), reading "(ii) Reduced imbalances across language combinations".

B. Conference management, Geneva

Subprogramme 2
Planning and coordination of conference services

Strategy

Paragraph 1.11 (b) (i)

After the words "Ensuring the timely availability", insert "in all official languages".

Paragraph 1.11 (c)

After the words "Member States and meeting participants", insert "in all official languages, and".

Paragraph 1.11 (d)

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "in all official languages".

Subprogramme 3
Documentation services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after the words "other written materials", insert "in all official languages".

In expected accomplishment (b), after the word "affecting", replace the existing text with "the quality and scope of services, as mandated by relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add indicator (c) (ii), reading "(ii) Reduced imbalances across language combinations".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.12

After subparagraph (b), insert a new subparagraph (c), reading:

(c) No changes of a substantive nature made to texts of both draft and adopted resolutions agreed by Member States during the Secretariat's editing process.

Rename former subparagraphs (c) and (d) as subparagraphs (d) and (e), respectively.

Subprogramme 4
Meetings and publishing services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after the words "meetings services", add "in all official languages".

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), add "without adversely affecting the quality and scope of services, as mandated by relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Indicators of achievement

Add indicator of achievement (b) (iv), reading "(b) (iv) Increased number of users of the e-subscription system".

Renumber indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add indicator (c) (ii), reading "(ii) Reduced imbalances across language combinations".

C. Conference management, Vienna

Subprogramme 2
Planning and coordination of conference services

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (b) as (b) (i) and add indicator (b) (ii), reading:

(b) (ii) Increased percentage of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States provided with interpretation services as available

Strategy

Paragraph 1.14 (c)

After the words "Member States and meeting participants", insert "in all official languages, and".

Paragraph 1.14 (d)

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "in all official languages".

Subprogramme 3
Documentation services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after the words "other written materials", insert "in all official languages".

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), add the words "without adversely affecting the quality and scope of services, as mandated by relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add indicator (c) (ii), reading "(ii) Reduced imbalances across language combinations".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.15

After subparagraph (b), insert a new subparagraph (c), reading:

(c) No changes of a substantive nature made to texts of both draft and adopted resolutions agreed by Member States during the Secretariat's editing process.

Rename former subparagraphs (c) and (d) as subparagraphs (d) and (e), respectively,

Subprogramme 4
Meetings and publishing services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (a), add the words "in all official languages".

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), add the words "without adversely affecting the quality and scope of services, as mandated by relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Indicators of achievement

Add indicator of achievement (b) (iv), reading "(iv) Increased number of users of the e-subscription system".

Renumber indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add indicator (c) (ii), reading "(ii) Reduced imbalances across language combinations".

D. Conference management, Nairobi

Subprogramme 2
Planning and coordination of conference services

Indicators of achievement

Add indicator of achievement (b) (ii), reading:

(ii) Increased percentage of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States provided with interpretation services as available

Strategy

Paragraph 1.17 (c)

After the words "Member States and meeting participants", insert "in all official languages".

Paragraph 1.17 (d)

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "in all official languages".

Subprogramme 3
Documentation services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after the words "other written materials", insert "in all official languages".

In expected accomplishment (b), after the words "without adversely affecting", replace the existing text with "the quality and scope of services, as mandated by relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add indicator (c) (ii), reading "(ii) Reduced imbalances across language combinations".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.18

After subparagraph (b), insert a new subparagraph (c), reading:

(c) No changes of a substantive nature made to texts of both draft and adopted resolutions agreed by Member States during the Secretariat's editing process.

Rename former subparagraphs (c) and (d) as subparagraphs (d) and (e), respectively.

Subprogramme 4
Meetings and publishing services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (a), add the words "in all official languages".

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), add the words "without adversely affecting the quality and scope of services, as mandated by relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Indicators of achievement

Add indicator of achievement (b) (v), reading "(v) Increased number of users of the e-subscription system".

Renumber indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add indicator (c) (ii), reading "(ii) Reduced imbalances across language combinations".

Programme 2
Political affairs

75. At its 5th meeting, on 3 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 2, Political affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 2)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1.

76. The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the Programme.

Discussion

77. Views and appreciation were expressed that the programme was very important for the maintenance of international peace and security. It was noted that recommendations of the Committee were taken into account in preparing the proposed strategic framework. Clarification was sought on deletions or modifications of the text, as compared with the programme for the biennium 2014-2015, including the drafting of strategies and objectives, the number and order of expected accomplishments, and the deletion of paragraphs on coordination and structure. The view was expressed that brevity did not always contribute to greater understanding and that the need existed for a balance between brevity and substance. Views were also expressed in favour of the fresh presentation of the strategic framework of the programme. With regard to the challenges faced by the Department of Political Affairs in implementing its programme owing to limited travel resources, as reflected in the programme performance report for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/69/144), clarification was sought on the use of alternative means for addressing such challenges. Elaboration was requested on the incorporation of a gender perspective throughout the programme as well as legislative mandates that were specific to the proposed strategic framework.

78. With regard to subprogramme 1, Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, clarification was sought concerning the inclusion of the phrase "partnerships with other United Nations and non-United Nations actors" (para. 2.7 (h)) in the strategy, and the exclusion of "enhancing political and operational links with the Peacebuilding Commission, Support Office and Fund" (para. 2.7 (l)).

79. With regard to subprogramme 2, Electoral assistance, clarification was sought with regard to changes to the objective, as well as legislative mandates that resulted in the changes, including the use of the term "genuine elections". Clarification was also sought on expected accomplishment (b), "Strengthened system-wide coherence and consistency in the provision of United Nations electoral assistance".

80. With regard to subprogramme 3, Security Council affairs, it was noted that indicator of achievement (a) would measure the degree of satisfaction of the wider United Nations membership. The view was expressed that the term "wider membership", and how the Secretariat would measure satisfaction, were not clear.

81. With regard to subprogramme 4, Decolonization, concern was expressed that the strategy had been summarized and essential elements such as the provision of substantive support to legislative bodies, particularly the Special Committee, had been excluded. It was indicated that the deleted text needed to be reinstated.

82. Regarding subprogramme 5, Question of Palestine, concern was expressed about the changes to the strategy, particularly the replacement of the words "all relevant United Nations resolutions" with "international legitimacy" (para. 2.13). In that regard, clarification was sought on the meaning of "international legitimacy" and how it would be ensured that all resolutions would be implemented. Views were also expressed that indicator of achievement (iii), "increase in international awareness", was not measurable; hence it seemed more like an expected accomplishment than an indicator of achievement.

83. Views were also expressed in support of subprogramme 6, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, including the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the development of the capacity of Member States in that regard.

84. With regard to subprogramme 7, Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, clarification was sought concerning the exclusion of the words "diplomatic" and "cultural" from the strategy. As to indicator of achievement (c), clarification was sought on the comparative advantage of replacing "medium-term response plan" with "United Nations Development Assistance Framework". It was observed that the term "participants" in expected accomplishment (a) was vague.

85. Regarding subprogramme 8, Peacebuilding Support Office, the importance of the subprogramme for development was underscored. It was recalled that the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture was to be conducted in 2015. Views were expressed that, regardless of the outcome of the review, the Peacebuilding Support Office should continue to provide analytical support to the Peacebuilding Commission. Clarification was sought on the exclusion of expected accomplishment (b) of the 2014-2015 framework, relating to the Peacebuilding Fund.

86. With regard to subprogramme 9, United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, clarification was sought on the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement.

Conclusions and recommendations

87. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 2, Political affairs, of the proposed strategic framework, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 2.2

In the second sentence, replace the words "peacemaking and post-conflict peacebuilding" with "peacemaking, capacity-building and post-conflict peacebuilding".

Paragraph 2.5

In the second sentence, delete the words "and guide".

Subprogramme 1
Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with "(a) Improved capacity and capability of Member States to identify, prevent and address conflict situations".

Strategy

Paragraph 2.7 (h)

Replace the words "non-United Nations actors" with "subregional, regional and international organizations".

Paragraph 2.7 (m)

At the end of the paragraph, add a new subparagraph (m), reading "and (m) empowering women in peacebuilding and mediation efforts".

Subprogramme 2
Electoral assistance

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To strengthen the existing capacity of the requesting Member States, in particular by enhancing the capacity of national electoral institutions

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (iii) with "(iii) Increased number of cases where electoral missions/experts were deployed within the required time frame".

In indicator of achievement (b), delete the words "including on integrated electoral assistance".

Subprogramme 4
Decolonization

Strategy

Paragraph 2.10

In the first sentence, after the words "Decolonization Unit", add "which will provide support to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as to the General Assembly".

Paragraph 2.12

Replace the paragraph with the text of paragraph 2.14 of the programme for the biennium 2014-2015, reading as follows, and replace the number "16" with "17":

> **2.12 In support of the above-mentioned legislative bodies, especially the Special Committee, advice and substantive assistance will be provided to the Committee, including in its deliberations on the situation in the remaining 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories at the annual sessions; during the preparation and conduct of its seminars held alternately in the Caribbean and the Pacific regions; during visiting missions; and in any other activity carried out to implement the mandated programme of work of the Committee. Assistance will also be provided in improving the Committee's cooperation with the administering Powers, maintaining contacts with the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and developing relations with the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, aimed at achieving further progress in decolonization and bringing a complete end to colonialism. Supportive actions will include closely following the developments in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, conducting research and preparing working papers, reports and analytical and briefing materials. In addition, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information, information material, including publications and audio and visual programmes related to decolonization, will be prepared and disseminated to a wide audience, with a view to increasing the awareness of the international community with regard to the decolonization issues as well as in mobilizing international support for the achievement of the complete eradication of colonialism.**

Subprogramme 5
Question of Palestine

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (iii) with "(iii) Increase in international awareness of the question of Palestine, including through an increased number of quality briefing notes, informational materials and resources provided by the Division for Palestinian Rights".

Strategy

Paragraph 2.13

After the second sentence, insert a sentence, reading "Supportive action by the United Nations will continue until all aspects of the question of Palestine are resolved in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international law".

Subprogramme 7
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with:

(b) The level of resources made available for improving the socioeconomic conditions of the Palestinian people is maintained in accordance with their needs.

Strategy

Paragraph 2.15

In the first sentence, replace the words "taking into account gender perspectives" with "taking into account diplomatic, cultural and gender perspectives", and replace "Occupied Palestinian Territory" with "Palestine".

Replace the second sentence with the following:

The Office will act as a focal point for the United Nations in its efforts to encourage and engage the parties and the international community through increased planning, negotiations and consultations, with a view to making progress towards a two-State solution.

Paragraph 2.16

In the first sentence, replace the words "Occupied Palestinian Territory" with "Palestine".

Subprogramme 8
Peacebuilding Support Office

Objective of the Organization

Replace the words "countries emerging from conflict" with "post-conflict countries".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), delete the words "and guide".

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), replace the words "Percentage of funds" with "All funds".

At the beginning of indicator of achievement (b) (iv), insert the word "Maintained".

At the beginning of indicator of achievement (c), insert the word "Increased".

Legislative mandates

Under subprogramme 1, replace the subject of presidential statement S/PRST/2011/4 with "Maintenance of international peace and security: the interdependence between security and development".

Programme 3
Disarmament

88. At its 9th meeting, on 5 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 3)).

89. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

90. Delegations expressed appreciation and continued support for the programme and the work of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

91. Clarification was sought regarding the status of the changes presented to the Committee at its fifty-third session. It was recalled that changes had been introduced in subprogrammes 1, 2 and 5, including changes to the organizational structure of the programme, which the Committee had decided not to recommend to the General Assembly for approval.

92. Delegations noted that several General Assembly resolutions and a decision had been deleted from the list of legislative mandates. It was observed that those legislative mandates remained of vital importance to the programme in the delivery of its activities. In that regard, an explanation was sought for the changes made in the presentation of relevant documents. Delegations also requested the Secretariat to provide information on specific mandates that were relevant to individual expected accomplishments.

93. The view was expressed that, under paragraph 3.3, no reference had been made to practical disarmament measures for the biennium 2016-2017. As a result, clarification was sought regarding the concept of practical disarmament measures, which had been included in the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2014-2015 (A/67/6/Rev.1).

94. The view was also expressed that, under paragraph 3.4, the Office for Disarmament Affairs had placed lesser emphasis on developing countries in the effort to enhance disarmament expertise in Member States, as compared with the programme for the biennium 2014-2015.

95. Clarification was sought regarding the view of the Secretariat on the nature of the support and assistance to be provided to the General Assembly, as reflected in paragraph 3.5.

96. Clarification was also sought regarding the security-related matters indicated in paragraph 3.6.

97. Clarification was sought regarding follow-up and future trends in the area of nuclear disarmament, as reflected in paragraph 3.9 (c) under subprogramme 2. Delegations observed that there was a need to address the analysis of current trends in the area of proliferation and the follow-up to the Conference on Disarmament, discussion of which had occurred during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly. Delegations expressed concern regarding the lack of emphasis on disarmament measures and the deletion of a strategy that had been reflected in paragraph 3.9 (e) of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2014-2015. Clarification was also sought as to the specific mandate for monitoring and assessing current and future trends and the plan of the Secretariat in relation to consensus-building under subprogramme 2.

98. Delegations questioned the rationale for the inclusion under subprogramme 3, Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures), of expected accomplishment (a), Effective facilitation of implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty by States parties, given that the Treaty had not yet entered into force. Clarification was sought regarding the challenges that were expected to emerge in the biennium 2016-2017 and how other major treaties had been treated in that regard.

99. Questions were raised concerning the mandates that supported the objectives of the programme, and the various strategies to be carried out in meeting those objectives. Clarification was sought regarding the role of the Secretariat in achieving the mandates of the Organization.

100. The view was expressed that, under subprogramme 2, Weapons of mass destruction, the reference to their means of delivery related exclusively to means specifically designed for the delivery of weapons of mass destruction.

Conclusions and recommendations

101. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 3.3

At the end of the second sentence, add the words "in particular weapons of mass destruction".

Delete the last sentence.

Paragraph 3.5

In the second sentence, after the words "multilateral disarmament agreements", insert "as required by States parties to such instruments and entities".

Paragraph 3.6

In the first sentence, replace the words "security-related matters" with "related security matters".

Subprogramme 1
Multilateral negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament

Amend the title of the subprogramme to read "Multilateral negotiations and deliberations on disarmament and arms limitation".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), after the word "adopted", insert "by the General Assembly and".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (i) with the following:

(i) Increased reporting by Member States on their steps to implement treaty obligations, decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the General Assembly

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (iii) with the following:

(iii) The number of visits to and page views of the websites of the Office for Disarmament Affairs and United Nations Office at Geneva

Strategy

Paragraph 3.8

Replace subparagraph (c) with the following:

(c) Supporting the implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the General Assembly as well as those adopted by conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms limitation agreements.

Replace subparagraph (f) with the following:

(f) Assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, at their request, in capacity-building and the holding of disarmament conferences, seminars and workshops by providing substantive support on a non-discriminatory basis.

Subprogramme 2
Weapons of mass destruction

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

(a) Effective and enhanced facilitation of the process of negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building on the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear

weapons, on disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects, delivery systems and outer space, and universality of international instruments dealing with weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, by Member States and States parties, at their request.

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with the following:

(b) Enhanced knowledge, understanding and multilateral cooperation within the existing mandates, as well as the ability to support investigation of the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons in accordance with its mandate, defined in General Assembly resolution 42/37 C, and to respond to challenges relating to the acquisition and use of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors.

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (ii) with the following:

(ii) Increased number of requests for expertise to support negotiations and deliberations on disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction consensus-building and implementation efforts.

Strategy

Paragraph 3.9

Replace subparagraph (a) with the following:

(a) Supporting Member States in their negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, as well as assisting Member States, at their request, in their efforts to achieve the full implementation and universalization of multilateral agreements and to prevent terrorist groups from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

In subparagraph (b), after the word "arrangements", insert "and agreements".

In subparagraph (c), after the word "provide", insert "Member States with".

Subprogramme 3
Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures)

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Delete expected accomplishment (a) and rename the subsequent expected accomplishments accordingly.

Indicators of achievement

Delete indicator of achievement (a) and rename the subsequent indicators of achievement accordingly.

Strategy

Paragraph 3.10

Delete subparagraph (a) and rename the subsequent subparagraphs accordingly.

In subparagraph (b), formerly subparagraph (c), delete the words "and the dissemination of International Small Arms Control Standards".

Subprogramme 4
Information and outreach

Objective of the Organization

Before the word "understanding", insert the word "awareness".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

(a) Timely provision, increased utilization and improved access to factual and objective information and education materials of the Office for Disarmament Affairs

Strategy

Paragraph 3.11

In subparagraph (b), before the word "composition", insert "ensuring gender balance and equitable geographical distribution of its".

Replace subparagraph (f) with the following:

(f) Facilitating the participation of civil society, especially non-governmental organizations, in disarmament-related conferences and meetings, including access to documentation, the organization of oral presentations, the holding of special events and the mounting of exhibits, in accordance with established rules of procedure.

Programme 4
Peacekeeping operations

102. At its 9th meeting, on 5 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 4, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 4)).

103. The Under-Secretary-General for Field Support and the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, Department of Peacekeeping Operations, introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

104. Views and appreciation were expressed that the programme was of great importance and one of the most important pillars and flagship operations of the United Nations. Support was expressed for the approach of placing peacekeeping as part of a larger strategy that helped to build sustainable peace. Tribute was paid to the men and women who lost their lives while serving the cause of peace.

105. It was observed that cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, such as the African Union, as well as coordination among the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Political Affairs, the Peacebuilding Commission and the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, were critical and should be strengthened and reflected in the proposed strategic framework.

106. Support was expressed for applying lessons learned and best practice in peacekeeping operations, mainstreaming the main benefits of the integrated service delivery model of the global field support strategy into the programme of work and using new mechanisms, tools and strategies, such as Umoja, the International Public Sector Accounting Standards and the global field support strategy, in addressing new challenges.

107. The importance of using the latest technology in carrying out peacekeeping operations and improving the living conditions of peacekeepers was stressed. One delegation called for strengthening the responsiveness of the United Nations in peacekeeping operations by allocating, reallocating and transferring resources globally as new priorities emerged and by sharing and transferring resources at the regional and subregional levels.

108. Support was expressed for multilingualism and for peacekeepers with the appropriate language skills and capacity. It was also observed that peacekeepers needed to have the experience and capacity to engage in peacebuilding activities, enabling host countries to provide services to civilians. In that regard, several delegations highlighted the importance of training.

109. The view was expressed that the protection of civilians was a key priority of United Nations peacekeeping operations. Other delegations strongly opposed the use of force by the United Nations and questioned the mandate for the protection of civilians. They stressed that the concept must be considered carefully and that it was necessary to draw a clear line between the protection of civilians and the responsibility to protect, as the General Assembly had not yet reached consensus on the latter.

110. Concerns were expressed about the deletions or modifications of the text, as compared with the approved programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015. Views were also expressed in favour of the fresh presentation of the strategic framework of the programme that reflected the current situation of peacekeeping operations.

111. Under "Overall orientation", it was stated that a number of important ideas contained in the approved programme of work for the previous biennium had been excluded. Clarification was sought regarding the status of implementation of the global field support strategy and the division and transition of responsibilities

among Headquarters, the United Nations Global Service Centre in Brindisi, Italy, and the United Nations Support Base in Valencia, Spain.

112. Under subprogramme 1, Operations, clarification was sought on the sequence of the listing of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretary-General. It was also observed that the work on refining cross-cutting issues contained in the approved programme of work for the previous biennium had been excluded.

113. Under subprogramme 2, Military, clarification was sought on indicator of achievement (a) (ii) as to who approved the list of potential troop-contributing countries and whether the host country played any role. It was observed that a number of ideas from the approved programme of work for the previous biennium had been excluded.

114. Under subprogramme 3, Rule of law and security institutions, clarification was sought on the engagement of the United Nations with Member States and regional and national peacekeeping training centres.

115. Under subprogramme 4, Policy, evaluation and training, clarification was sought on the change of indicator of achievement (i) and the relationship between the expected accomplishment on increased awareness and the indicator of achievement on the number of web-based materials downloaded. Views were expressed that indicator of achievement (ii) should measure the training received instead of the percentage of peacekeeping training standards developed and made available. Clarification was also sought on the role of the Policy, Evaluation and Training Division in supporting training programmes to prepare peacekeepers, as troops were normally trained by Member States.

116. Under subprogramme 5, Field administrative support, emphasis was placed on the importance of timely response to misconduct. Clarification was sought on the difference between misconduct and serious misconduct and the existence of related guidelines. An update was sought on the progress made in the area of conduct and discipline. Clarification was also sought on the relationship between expected accomplishment (b), on increased efficiency and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations, and indicator of achievement (b) (i), on the increased number of international female staff serving in peacekeeping operations and other United Nations field missions. Regarding indicator (c) (ii), clarification was sought on the change in the time frame for referring allegations of serious misconduct for investigation from "in a timely fashion" to "within 3 days".

Conclusions and recommendations

117. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 4, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 4.1

In the first sentence, add the word "international" before "peace and security".

Paragraph 4.5

Replace the penultimate sentence with the following sentence:

Both Departments will continue to pursue greater coordination, within existing mandates, with internal partners, as well as with external partners, including international financial institutions and regional organizations, to enhance the ability of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security.

Add before the last sentence, the following:

Sustainable progress on security, national reconciliation and development need to occur in parallel, given the interconnected nature of those challenges in countries emerging from conflict.

Paragraph 4.6

At the end of the first sentence, add the words "in coordination with the Peacebuilding Commission".

Paragraph 4.8

Replace the paragraph with the following:

4.8 The Department of Peacekeeping Operations will continue to focus its efforts on strengthening mission planning and oversight; implementing specific Security Council mandates, including those related to protecting civilians, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and basic principles of peacekeeping (consent of the parties, impartiality and non-use of force except in self-defence and in the defence of a mandate authorized by the Security Council); and pursuing a capability-driven approach to identifying, developing and using peacekeeping resources.

Paragraph 4.11

At the end of the last sentence, add the words "and in order to deliver services to the field quickly and effectively".

A. Peacekeeping operations

Subprogramme 1
Operations

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with:

To ensure the effective implementation of all Security Council mandates to plan, establish and adjust peacekeeping operations, as well as the effective implementation of relevant General Assembly resolutions

Strategy

Paragraph 4.14

At the beginning of the last sentence, insert the words "Bearing in mind relevant resolutions".

Subprogramme 3
Rule of law and security institutions

Strategy

Paragraph 4.18

In the second sentence, after the words "post-conflict societies", insert "based on national ownership".

Subprogramme 5
Field administrative support

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add a new expected accomplishment, reading "(d) Increased measures to prevent serious misconduct".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (i), replace the words "international female staff" with "international and national female staff".

Add a new indicator of achievement, reading "(d) Decreased number of substantiated allegations of serious misconduct".

Subprogramme 6
Integrated support services

Strategy

Paragraph 4.26

Replace the second sentence with the following:

The activities of those Divisions include the general provision of equipment and services to missions, based on the general principles of procurement (best value for money; fairness, integrity and transparency; effective international competition; and the interest of the United Nations), and with adherence to relevant General Assembly resolutions, for the effective, timely and efficient fulfilment of their mandates.

At the end of the paragraph, add a new sentence, reading:

The Divisions will continue strengthening synergies and cooperation with the relevant structure of the Department of Management within the Department's relevant mandate.

B. Peacekeeping missions

Paragraph 4.28

Replace the first sentence with the following:

The mission will continue to provide timely and accurate observation reports and analysis of political developments mission-wide, including the safety and security situation.

Programme 5
Peaceful uses of outer space

118. At its 18th meeting, on 12 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 5)).

119. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

120. Appreciation was expressed for the concise and streamlined presentation of the document and the efforts undertaken by the Office for Outer Space Affairs to harmonize the schedules of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to ensure that the outcome of the review of the strategic framework by the latter Committee was made available to the Committee for Programme and Coordination during its review of the programme.

121. Delegations expressed their support for the programme, in particular the critical role it played in helping developing countries to use space science and technology for economic, social and scientific development, and highlighted the need to strengthen the programme. Clarification was sought regarding the financial and human resources challenges faced by the programme, as illustrated in the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/69/144), and their impact on the planned strategy for 2016-2017. In that context, the need to provide the Office for Outer Space Affairs with more human and financial resources for the effective fulfilment of its mandate was highlighted. Queries were raised on the decreasing level of voluntary contributions in cash and in kind and its impact on the programme of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER).

122. Clarification was sought on the challenges faced in concluding legal agreements with host countries and whether any legal agreements had been reached with developing countries or multiple entities during the seventh session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

123. Clarification was also sought on the type of international entities referred to under "Objective of the Organization". With regard to indicator of achievement (b) (i), clarification was sought as to the number of countries receiving training, including the type of training to be provided.

124. Queries were raised on the level of support provided by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to its new members.

Conclusions and recommendations

125. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), insert the words "including developing countries and countries with economies in transition" after "countries".

Indicators of achievement

In indicators of achievement (b) (i), (b) (ii) and (d) (i), insert the words "in particular developing countries" after "countries".

Programme 6
Legal affairs

126. At its 18th meeting, on 12 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 6)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1.

127. The Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, Legal Counsel, introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

128. Views were expressed in support of the programme and the important and essential functions carried out under the programme for the Organization and in support of the promotion of international law. It was emphasized that the legal interpretations provided by the Office of Legal Affairs were very important.

129. Delegations noted the importance of the participation of the Office of Legal Affairs in the Organization's administration of justice system. Questions were raised and responses were provided concerning the participation of the Office in the area of administration of justice to ensure that staff rights were upheld. Clarification was also sought on the synergies between the Office and other departments in this area.

130. Clarification was sought as to the formulation of the strategy for the provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole, and the activities of the Office as the custodian of functions with regard to the relationship with the host country under the Headquarters Agreement.

131. Clarification was also sought and a response provided on how the impact of the advice provided by the Office could be measured and on the incorporation of a gender perspective in the advice provided by the Office.

132. Delegations expressed support for the work of the Office with regard to the progressive development and codification of international law. Delegations noted the important role of the Office in capacity-building through the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. Clarification was sought and provided on current initiatives in the Programme of Assistance. Clarification was also sought and provided on the Office's role in the development of legal doctrine in the progressive development and codification of international law.

133. Delegations noted the important functions of the Office in the progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade. Clarification was sought and provided on how the Office could facilitate broader participation by Member States in the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law.

134. Views were expressed in support of the important work of the Office in the area of the law of the sea and ocean affairs, and a clarification was sought as to the mandate and functions of the Office with regard to UN-Oceans. Clarification was also sought and provided on the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building activities in the area of the law of the sea and ocean affairs.

135. The view was expressed that the Office of Legal Affairs provided an essential function in maintaining the institutional memory of the Organization through its responsibilities in the custody, registration and publication of treaties. Delegations welcomed the continued expansion of the online treaty collection and sought clarification on current efforts in that regard. Clarification was also sought and provided with respect to the availability of premises for the archiving of treaties.

136. Clarification was sought regarding the application of regulation 4.8 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation in servicing the intergovernmental process. A question was raised on the issue of uniformity in that regard and, in particular, which United Nations organs were considered "relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies", as referred to in regulation 4.8, that might consider the biennial programme plan.

137. It was noted that changes had been made in the proposed strategic framework for 2016-2017 compared with the approved programme plan for 2014-2015, and that brevity should not be favoured to the detriment of substance.

138. With regard to subprogramme 1, Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole, it was noted that some of the ideas reflected in the programme plan for 2014-2015 had been excluded from the proposed strategic framework.

139. With regard to subprogramme 2, General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes, it was noted that the indicators of achievement had been amended, compared with the programme plan for 2014-2015.

140. As to subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, the importance of the subprogramme was underscored, and it was noted that the subprogramme faced resource challenges. The view was expressed that the activities of the subprogramme with regard to capacity-building should be

further expanded, in particular the Regional Courses in International Law and the Audiovisual Library of International Law.

141. With regard to subprogramme 4, Law of the sea and ocean affairs, the efforts of the Office to promote and strengthen the rule of law for the oceans was welcomed.

142. With regard to subprogramme 5, Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade, it was noted that the proposed indicators of achievement (a) (i) and (ii) were useful but not sufficient. It was also noted that an additional indicator of achievement, (a) (iii), should focus on substantive joint work. It was stated that the indicators of achievement could be strengthened.

143. As to subprogramme 6, Custody, registration and publication of treaties, the view was expressed that the subprogramme played an important role in retaining the institutional memory of the Organization.

Conclusions and recommendations

144. **The Committee stressed the need for the Office to be fully engaged in providing advice and information, on request, to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and its Member States.**

145. **The Committee emphasized the importance of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to make the efforts necessary to ensure wider participation in the above-mentioned Programme, as well as to strengthen capacity-building and training activities, in accordance with the technical and legal assistance provided to States under subprogramme 3.**

146. **The Committee underlined the need to ensure the continuation of all activities of the Programme of Assistance, including the Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the continuation of the Audiovisual Library of International Law, and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure support for all activities of the Programme of Assistance in accordance with the provisions of Assembly resolutions 66/97 and 68/110, in particular paragraph 7 thereof.**

147. **In addition, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure that all regions receive equal treatment when planning, organizing and conducting international law training courses and seminars, including the International Law Fellowship Programme and the Regional Courses in International Law.**

148. **The Committee stressed the essential role of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in promoting and disseminating the law of the sea, in providing secretariat services to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, the Meeting of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and all meetings of subsidiary bodies established by the General Assembly, and as coordinator of UN-Oceans.**

149. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 6.4

At the end of the second sentence, add the words "in particular observance of the Charter and the resolutions, decisions, regulations, rules and treaties emanating from the Organization".

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Indicators of achievement

Add indicator of achievement (b) (iii), reading "(iii) Improved regional balance among the Regional Courses in International Law".

Strategy

Paragraph 6.16

At the end of item (b), add the words "especially for developing countries".

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To promote and strengthen the law of the sea for the peaceful use of the oceans and sustainable development

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

150. At its 15th meeting, on 10 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 7)). The Committee also had before it a summary of the action taken and planned following the review of the proposed biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017, as reflected in conference room paper E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1.

151. The Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

152. Delegations expressed appreciation and continued support for the programme and the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

153. Regarding paragraph 7.1, delegations expressed concern at the deletion of the words "eradication of poverty and hunger", which had appeared in the previous biennial programme. In that regard, it was observed that the eradication of poverty had been included as one of the key objectives of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want" (General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex), as had other essential goals relating to the eradication of poverty and hunger.

154. Regarding paragraph 7.4, clarification was sought as to how the functions of the Department had been carried out in the biennium 2014-2015, including the fostering of collaboration and partnerships within the United Nations system and with civil society and the private sector. Questions were raised as to the approach taken by the Secretariat in promoting cooperation and partnerships and to which expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement the functions related. Clarification was also sought as to whether the engagement of the United Nations with civil society included businesses as part of the mandate. The view was expressed that the functions defined in the previous biennial programme plan should be maintained.

155. Regarding paragraph 7.6, delegations noted the absence of any reference to consultation efforts in relation to the mainstreaming of gender perspectives. Clarification was sought as to whether consultations had led to a specific vision of how the programme should be implemented in the biennium 2016-2017.

156. Clarification was sought regarding the application of regulation 4.8 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation in servicing the intergovernmental process. Questions were raised on the issue of uniformity in that regard and on what the Secretariat had done to ensure coherence in the activities of the United Nations.

157. Clarification was sought under subprogramme 1 on how to measure indicator of achievement (a) (i) and what had been done to achieve expected accomplishment (a). Delegations noted that in paragraph 7.7 (i), the strategy focused on conflict issues; it was, however, observed that no reference had been made to the Peacebuilding Commission.

158. Regarding the strategy contained in paragraph 7.9, it was suggested that the words "disaster prevention" be replaced by "disaster risk reduction".

159. Clarification was sought regarding the wording of the objective under subprogramme 3 and the absence of any reference to poverty eradication. The view was expressed that emphasis should be given to poverty eradication because that objective was considered the anchor of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and that activities carried out in that regard should have significant interaction with intergovernmental bodies. Questions were raised as to whether the post-2015 development agenda would be based on the Millennium Development Goals. Delegations also questioned the changes made in expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, as compared with those for the biennium 2014-2015.

160. Clarification was sought regarding the inclusion of one particular group of countries and the reason for not including all developing countries, as reflected in expected accomplishment (c) under subprogramme 3. Delegations also questioned

the lack of reference to middle-income countries and pointed out that the strategy of the Department in enhancing the capacity of developing countries, including those in special situations, should be taken into account.

161. Questions were raised as to the expectations of the Department regarding the implementation of the outcome of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in Apia from 1 to 4 September 2014, and how they related to the synergies and structure of the Secretariat.

162. More detailed information was sought regarding the voluntary country reviews, as reflected in indicator of achievement (c) (i) under subprogramme 3, and the changes to the programme based on the science-policy interface approach reflected in expected accomplishment (d).

163. Clarification was sought regarding the changes to the strategy under subprogramme 3. Questions were raised regarding the view of the Secretariat in paragraph 7.9 (d) in relation to disaster prevention and the absence of any reference to strengthening cooperation with major groups. Clarification was also sought as to the relevance of the information and reports provided to Member States on partnerships and voluntary commitments, as reflected in paragraph 7.9 (h). Questions were raised concerning the availability of the reports, in particular those on partnerships, and what had been done by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in providing access to Member States.

164. The view was expressed that the work of the Department and its related activities should be carried out in close coordination with the regional commissions and other relevant entities in order to ensure complementarity and synergy with regional partners. It was observed that, under subprogramme 4, more detailed information should be provided on activities carried out with the regional commissions. Clarification was sought regarding the progress made in strengthening the geospatial information system.

165. Delegations expressed concern regarding the impression given in expected accomplishment (a) of subprogramme 5 that the issue of demographic phenomena focused on the ageing population. It was emphasized that the concept of gender dimensions of demographic phenomena should include the young population and be addressed in the programme of work.

166. Delegations questioned the absence in subprogramme 9 of any reference to the follow-up to the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, and clarification was sought regarding the preparatory work to be considered in relation to such follow-up. Questions were also raised regarding the kind of work involved and anticipated in expected accomplishment (d), on the strengthened role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation in tax matters.

Conclusions and recommendations

167. **The Committee stressed the importance of the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in fostering collaboration and partnerships within the United Nations system and with civil society and the private sector, within agreed mandates.**

168. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:

Overall orientation

Paragraph 7.4

After the existing text of item (d), insert the words "while ensuring proper accountability and oversight by Member States".

Subprogramme 3
Sustainable development

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c) (i), delete the words "including through voluntary country reviews to the high-level political forum on sustainable development".

Strategy

Paragraph 7.9

In subparagraph (a), insert the words "the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and", before "small island developing States".

In subparagraph (d), replace the words "disaster prevention" with "disaster risk reduction".

Subprogramme 4
Statistics

Strategy

Paragraph 7.10

At the end of subparagraph (e), add the words "upon request".

Subprogramme 5
Population

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (c), replace the words "including sex-disaggregated data for use by Member States" with "sex- and age-disaggregated data for use by Member States".

Subprogramme 9
Financing for development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (d), replace the words "Strengthened role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation in tax

matters," with "Increased contribution by the United Nations in promoting international cooperation in tax matters".

Programme 8
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

169. At its 17th meeting, on 11 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 8)).

170. The Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the Office for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

171. Delegations expressed full support for the programme and emphasized the importance of the role of the Office of the High Representative in monitoring, reporting and implementing the programmes of action, as well as graduation from the least developed country category, and in supporting advocacy and strategic articulation of the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, mobilizing and coordinating international support and resources and building partnerships.

172. Support was expressed for the upcoming important conferences focusing on the three groups of countries covered by the Office, namely, the Ministerial Conference on New Partnerships for the Development of Productive Capacities in Least Developed Countries, to be held in Cotonou, Benin, in July 2014; the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in Apia in September 2014; and the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, to be held in Vienna in November 2014.

173. Delegations recognized the critical importance of mainstreaming the provisions of the various programmes of action into the work of the United Nations and into the national development and cooperation frameworks of relevant countries.

174. Views were expressed that the Office should focus on its mandated activities and avoid duplication in venturing into those mandated to other United Nations entities, such as activities relating to trade and development.

175. Information was sought on the progress made by the least developed countries in meeting the criteria for graduation from the least developed category since the adoption in 2011 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, and questions were raised on how the prospects of graduation could be expected to develop and improve once the post-2015 development agenda had been adopted.

176. The view was expressed that the deletion from the overall orientation of the programme of reference to (a) mobilizing international support and resources in favour of the three groups of countries to help them to overcome their

vulnerabilities and (b) monitoring and coordinating the implementation of specific actions and initiatives with the aim of establishing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries had reduced the emphasis on important aspects of the work of the Office.

177. Emphasis was placed on the importance of addressing the needs of transit developing countries, in addition to the special needs of landlocked countries, under subprogramme 2.

178. Clarification was sought regarding the formulation of indicator of achievement (a) (i) under subprogramme 1, indicator of achievement (c) (i) under subprogramme 2 and indicator of achievement (a) (i) under subprogramme 3. The view was expressed that such indicators could be considered outputs, as opposed to outcomes, and could possibly foster an unnecessary increase in the number of resolutions.

179. Regarding indicator of achievement (b) under subprogramme 3, the view was expressed that the amount of financial contribution could be a better indicator than the number of development partners, and emphasis was placed on the importance of the quality of the partnerships as well as their quantity.

Conclusions and recommendations

180. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 1
Least developed countries

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), replace the words "number of" with "reference in".

Subprogramme 2
Landlocked developing countries

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c) (i), replace the words "number of" with "reference in".

Subprogramme 3
Small island developing States

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), replace the words "number of" with "reference in".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with the following:

(b) Increased number of development partners that pledge support for small island developing States, including through the climate

change financing mechanisms, such as the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility and the Climate Investment Funds

Programme 9
United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

181. At its 10th meeting, on 6 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 9, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 9)).

182. The Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

183. Delegations expressed full support for the programme and recognized the important role it played in coordinating the efforts of the United Nations system in support of Africa's development, in general, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development, in particular. Several delegations called for the further strengthening of the programme.

184. Delegations recognized the importance of enhancing coherence, coordination and cooperation within the United Nations in support of Africa for the implementation of the Ten-Year Capacity-building Programme for the African Union and its successor programme, the Millennium Development Goals, the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals.

185. It was emphasized that the post-2015 development agenda should reflect Africa's development needs, as articulated in the Common African Position on the post-2015 development agenda, and international support for Africa should be adapted to Africa's priorities. It was acknowledged that agriculture, capacity-building, diversification of economies, employment for youth, food security, industrialization, infrastructure development and health were major African priorities and central to Africa's transformative development agenda.

186. Delegations underscored the importance of enhancing strategic partnerships among African countries, including through coordination with regional bodies. The view was expressed that in addition to emphasis on strengthening South-South cooperation, there was a continued need for North-South and triangular cooperation in support of Africa's development, peace and security. It was suggested that future reports should highlight such strategic partnerships.

187. It was observed that flexibility would be needed in the implementation of the strategic framework of the programme in the light of Africa's changing priorities, as encapsulated in the strategic plans of the African Union Commission and NEPAD for the period 2014-2017 and the strategic directions to be articulated in the African Union's Agenda 2063.

188. The view was expressed that advocacy was important for creating better awareness of peacebuilding in Africa. In that regard, peace should be adopted as a priority for Africa's development and new emphasis should be given to enhancing

synergy between social and economic development and its linkage to peace and security.

189. Clarification was sought on the wider spectrum of media resources and information technology tools being employed by the programme, in addition to the publication of *Africa Renewal*, that were contributing to its global advocacy and international awareness-raising of Africa's development and peace and security issues. Further clarification was sought as to how the Secretariat planned to make use of recent developments in information and communications technology.

190. Support for the Tokyo international conferences on African development, including the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development, was expressed. Clarification was sought on the progress and challenges in implementing the process relating to the international conferences.

191. Support for the United Nations monitoring mechanism was expressed. Clarification was sought on financing for the monitoring mechanism and it was proposed that the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the review of the implementation of commitments made towards Africa's development should include a matrix of new commitments beyond the commitments and actions already undertaken.

Conclusions and recommendations

192. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 9, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 9.8

Replace the last sentence with the following:

Revisions to the biennial programme plan resulting from this process should be presented to Member States to ensure that the United Nations remains supportive of the work of NEPAD.

Subprogramme 1
Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To strengthen international cooperation in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals and those for the period beyond 2015, in Africa

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), after the existing text, insert the words "including through regional mechanisms".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (ii) with "Increased number of international forums, activities and outputs addressing South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation in support of Africa".

Replace indicator of achievement (d) with "Increased number of visits and page views on the website of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and other related websites".

Subprogramme 2
Regional coordination of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a), insert the words "programmes and activities" after "joint projects".

Renumber indicator of achievement (b) as (b) (i) and add indicator (b) (ii), reading:

> **(ii) Increased number of joint capacity development projects, programmes and activities implemented by regional economic communities in support of regional economic integration programmes**

Subprogramme 3
Public information and awareness activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the word "recovery" with "growth".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (i) with "Increased number of visits and page views on the *Africa Renewal* website and other related websites".

In indicator of achievement (a) (ii), replace the words "online news features" with "news items and publications (print, audio and video)", and replace the words "local media" with "the media".

Programme 10
Trade and development

193. At its 6th and 20th meetings, on 4 and 13 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 10, Trade and development, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 10)).

194. The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Executive Director of the International Trade

Centre (ITC) introduced their respective subprogrammes and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

195. Delegations expressed appreciation for the programme and for the work of UNCTAD, especially in the context of subprogramme 5, Africa, least developed countries and special programmes.

196. It was emphasized by some delegations that the logical framework of the programme provided limited linkage between the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. In that context, the view was expressed that the logical framework must be improved, with better measurement of impact, more specific indicators of achievement and the inclusion of feedback from beneficiaries as an indicator of achievement.

197. Delegations emphasized the importance of value chains, transfer of technology, trade intelligence, trade facilitation and the support provided to the least developed countries and countries in special situations, including small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, in those areas. In that regard, clarification was sought as to the non-inclusion of those issues in the logical frameworks, in particular in the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of the various subprogrammes, although they had been reflected under the various strategies.

198. Some delegations sought clarification of how UNCTAD would integrate the post-2015 development agenda, when adopted by the General Assembly, into the strategic framework for the period 2016-2017.

199. Some delegations observed that paragraph 10.4 referred to three pillars, with no clear explanation of what those pillars were.

200. Some delegations emphasized the importance of South-South cooperation and sought clarification regarding its promotion, as reflected in indicator of achievement (a) (iii) under subprogramme 1, Globalization, interdependence and development. In addition, questions were raised concerning the scope of the work of UNCTAD in the interaction of international investment and official development assistance, as indicated in expected accomplishment (a) and indicator of achievement (a) (ii) under subprogramme 2, Investment and enterprise, especially when there was no agreement on the inflow of foreign investment.

201. Some delegations expressed the view that the decisions of UNCTAD at its thirteenth session, held in Doha in 2012, had not been reflected in the programme, in particular with regard to non-tariff barriers. In that context, they expressed concern over the change in indicator of achievement (b) (ii) under component 1, International trade in goods and services, of subprogramme 3, International trade. In the report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/68/75), the same subprogramme had included reference to reducing or eliminating arbitrary or unjustified non-tariff barriers in international trade.

202. Clarification was sought regarding the work of UNCTAD on regional integration, in particular in connection with subprogramme 5, and on the matter of

infrastructure development, especially in connection with hard infrastructure. In addition, some delegations raised questions concerning the reflection of issues of transfer of technology in the overall programme of work of UNCTAD.

203. Delegations expressed appreciation and support for the work of ITC and its efforts in advancing trading services in Africa, in particular its work directed towards the least developed countries. A comment was made regarding the need to further build capacity and facilitate cooperation among countries.

204. Strong support was expressed for the leadership of ITC. Furthermore, delegations expressed pleasure at hearing the representative of the Secretary-General reaffirm the efforts of the Centre to seek results within the management framework.

205. Satisfaction was expressed concerning the proposed expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of subprogramme 6, Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development. In that connection, it was observed that that subprogramme was the only subprogramme of programme 10 to incorporate the gender dimension among its indicators of achievement.

206. Clarification was sought concerning the link between proposed expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement under subprogramme 6, specifically, how indicator of achievement (a) (ii) would be measured and which criteria were to be used to measure indicator of achievement (b). The comment was also made that, with regard to indicators of achievement (c) (i) and (ii), there was no definition of international competitiveness that would make it possible to appropriately measure an increase.

207. It was observed that, in paragraph 10.24 of the strategy of the subprogramme, it had been stated that ITC would contribute to the implementation of, among others, the declarations made at the Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in 2011. In that connection, delegations observed that the concept of aid effectiveness had not been agreed upon by the General Assembly and that the event had not been sponsored by the United Nations. The request was made for further elaboration of the rationale for the inclusion of the Forum in the subprogramme, including the specific resolution that provided the mandate for the work of ITC in support of the Forum.

208. A question was raised concerning the possibility of revising some elements of subprogramme 6 in view of the discussions and negotiations currently under way in connection with the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda.

209. Clarifications were sought concerning the work of ITC with regard to services and regional integration.

Conclusions and recommendations

210. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 10, Trade and development, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 10.9

At the end of the paragraph, add the following:

UNCTAD and ITC will increase their use of evaluation surveys to seek feedback from relevant stakeholders from across all subprogrammes in order to measure improved capacity of stakeholders to address trade and development issues as a result of UNCTAD and/or ITC assistance.

Subprogramme 1
Globalization, interdependence and development

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (iii) with the following:

(iii) Number of UNCTAD activities, including publications and workshops, that promote either North-South, South-South or triangular cooperation

Subprogramme 3
International trade

Component 1
International trade in goods and services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (d) with the following:

(d) Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, to design and implement creative economy objectives and sustainable development strategies at all levels

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (ii) with the following:

(ii) Number of specific actions taken by Member States, at the national, regional or multilateral levels, aimed at streamlining or harmonizing non-tariff measures in international trade, including the reduction or elimination of arbitrary or unjustified non-tariff barriers in international trade, with the assistance of UNCTAD

In indicator of achievement (d) (ii), after the words "sustainable development", insert "and poverty eradication".

Strategy

Paragraph 10.16

Replace the paragraph with the following:

10.16 The subprogramme, under the responsibility of the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, through the three pillars of the work of UNCTAD, will promote inclusive and sustainable growth and development and poverty eradication, based on the international trade in goods, services and commodities, the international trading system and the linkages between trade and internationally agreed development goals. Non-tariff measures and non-tariff barriers are gaining attention in international trade. International efforts should be made to address non-tariff measures, and aim to reduce and to eliminate arbitrary or unjustified non-tariff barriers. The subprogramme will address persistent and emerging development challenges (inter alia, women's economic empowerment, access to decent and productive employment, food security and poverty eradication) and assess their implications for the development prospects of developing countries, least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, including at the national policymaking level. It will continue to improve cooperation and enhance synergies with other international organizations and foster the coordination of system-wide United Nations activities in the area of international trade. It will also strengthen the communication and dissemination aspects of its work.

Paragraph 10.17

Replace subparagraph (a) with the following:

(a) Monitoring and assessing from a development perspective the evolution of the international trading system and trends in trade policy and international trade and their consistency with the multilateral trading system rules.

In subparagraph (b), after the word "protectionism", insert "including subsidies and disguised trade barriers".

At the end of subparagraph (f), add the words "and assess the impact of the development on the enabling clause of the World Trade Organization (WTO)".

Replace subparagraph (q) with the following:

(q) Addressing issues at the interface between trade and environment in the context of the promotion of sustainable development in its three dimensions, economic, social and environmental, including through technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and seizing trade and investment opportunities relating to this issue.

Replace subparagraph (r) with the following:

(r) Addressing challenges and opportunities in the promotion of sustainable development and poverty eradication, including tools and insights available to achieve this.

Add new subparagraph (w), reading:

(w) In collaboration with WTO, ITC and other relevant partners, consolidate its work on databases on non-tariff measures, continue its analysis of the impact of non-tariff measures on the trade and development prospects of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and continue its participation in the Transparency in Trade initiative.

Component 2
Commodities

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (a) as (a) (i) and add new indicator (a) (ii), reading:

(ii) Increased amount of research on commodity production in countries with economies that are dependent on commodities, with the aim of diversifying their production, including by increasing the added value of their commodities

Strategy

Paragraph 10.18

In the second sentence, replace the words "to address the impacts of volatility of commodity prices on them" with "to monitor commodity prices and address the impacts of excessive volatility of those prices on them".

After the second sentence, insert the following:

UNCTAD will monitor developments and challenges in commodity markets and address links between international commodity trade and national development, in particular with regard to poverty eradication.

In subparagraph (a), replace the words "poverty reduction" with "poverty eradication".

In subparagraph (b), after the word "agriculture", insert "and fisheries".

At the end of subparagraph (e) (iv), add the words "and sanitary and phytosanitary measures".

Subprogramme 4
Technology and logistics

Strategy

Paragraph 10.19

Insert a new subparagraph (a), reading:

(a) Supporting initiatives for and conducting policy dialogue on diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and transfer of, access to and acquisition of technology for developing countries, including diffusion of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how.

Rename the subsequent subparagraphs accordingly.

Add a new subparagraph (m), reading:

(m) Assisting in the implementation of customs automation and trade facilitation programmes.

Subprogramme 6
Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development

Strategy

Paragraph 10.24

In the penultimate sentence, delete the words "and the declarations made at the Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, in 2011".

Replace the last sentence with the following:

The subprogramme will play an important role in furthering the implementation of the Doha, Hong Kong and Geneva ministerial declarations adopted by WTO, in particular by improving and enhancing trade support institutions and policies for the benefit of exporting efforts and by strengthening the export capacity of enterprises to respond to market opportunities.

Paragraph 10.28

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "including through the further improvement of its results-based management systems".

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 6
Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development

Replace the words "World Trade Organization resolutions and decisions" with "World Trade Organization declarations".

Programme 11
Environment

211. At its 10th meeting, on 6 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 11, Environment, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 11)).

212. The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

213. Support and appreciation were expressed for the programme. The hope was expressed that its objectives could be reached in a reasonable time frame.

214. Several delegations expressed concern that neither the consensus reached at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012, nor the discussions that had taken place in the Committee during its fifty-third session were sufficiently reflected in the current document. In particular, delegations expressed regret that the objective of UNEP, as contained in paragraph 11.2, did not relate to any of the mandates referred to in paragraph 11.1, nor to the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want".

215. Concern was expressed regarding the continued use by the Secretariat of terms and concepts for which consensus was still lacking among Member States. In that regard, delegations emphasized that the Secretariat needed to be consistent with the agreed language, especially in the formulation of proposed language when dealing with contentious issues.

216. The view was expressed that the proposed biennial programme plan for 2016-2017 did not take a balanced approach to the three pillars of sustainable development; rather, the vision and understanding of the plan were one-sided. It was emphasized that the objective did not refer to sustainable development and that it should be based on the relevant mandates, in particular those contained in "The future we want".

217. Concerns were also raised that there seemed to be no coherent implementation of paragraph 88 of "The future we want".

218. Views were expressed that the biennial programme neither clarified the role of UNEP in promoting the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, nor did it refer to sustainable development in any of the objectives of the subprogrammes. An explanation was sought as to why the subprogrammes significantly diverted from the agreed outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

219. Several delegations expressed concern about the use, in paragraph 11.2, of the phrase "catalyse a transition towards low-carbon, low-emission, resource-efficient and equitable development". In particular, it was argued that there was no consensus among Member States about those concepts, which seemed to exceed the UNEP role and area of expertise and leadership (i.e. the environmental dimension of sustainable development). The view was also expressed that the use of the word "catalyse" to

describe the role of UNEP was out of context, as it implied that the transition was inevitable and had already been agreed upon by Member States. The use, in paragraph 11.12, of the word "transition" in relation to "green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication", was also questioned, as the concept was not included in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, nor had consensus been reached thereon. Delegations requested that references to concepts that had no legislative mandate be deleted from the biennial programme plan. It was stressed that UNEP should not go beyond its mandates when implementing its programme of work and that it should focus only on the environmental conventions and agreements that had been agreed upon by Member States.

220. In addition, concerns were raised about the use of the term "green economy" out of context, and it was stressed that the language that had been agreed upon at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development was "green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication", which was the language that should be reflected accordingly in the biennial programme plan.

221. Views were expressed that in the text, in particular paragraph 11.7, it was not clearly specified how UNEP would carry out its programme of work, especially on sensitive areas, in countries, while taking into consideration national laws, norms and standards, as the use of the word "achieve" instead of "support" would conflict with the national sovereign right to choose national energy policies.

222. With regard to paragraph 11.14, UNEP was asked to clarify how it could combine the synergies of all stakeholders (such as regional, liaison and country offices) and leverage synergies among the subprogrammes to accomplish the subprogramme's objectives and obtain the best possible impact.

223. Appreciation was expressed for indications in the overall orientation of a desire to achieve greater accountability and for the reference to the use of performance management indicators. Appreciation was also expressed for the inclusion of the objectives of efficiency, transparency and the use of performance information for improved management decision-making in the strategy of the programme. Views were also expressed on the UNEP focus on monitoring and evaluation and the references to key performance to be more focused on action and results. A request was made for UNEP to further explain its self-evaluation.

224. Delegations welcomed the inclusion of a gender perspective and the priority it had been given by UNEP in the biennial programme plan.

225. Emphasizing the key role played by the regional commissions in implementing the three pillars of sustainable development, Member States enquired about UNEP coordination with them. UNEP was also asked what the major tasks of the regional commissions were under the programme.

226. The question was raised whether the biennial programme plan for 2016-2017 reflected the outcomes of discussions between UNEP and the governing body of UNEP and Member States based in Nairobi.

227. With regard to subprogramme 1, Climate change, a view was expressed that this environmental issue was of a global nature. Clarification was sought on the way forward and on the UNEP strategy for making progress on solving the issue. Clarification was also sought, within the context of climate change, on the goal of

transitioning from high to low emissions and on how that goal could be reached. Member States said that the activities of UNEP related to climate change should be linked to development and job creation.

228. The view was expressed that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement under subprogramme 1 should be revised to reflect the decisions taken at the nineteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, especially decisions 9 and 15.

229. Concerns were expressed as to why UNEP had not incorporated the Rio Conventions, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, into the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement under subprogramme 1. In addition, the question was raised why land degradation and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat had not been referred to in the subprogramme.

230. Concern was raised about the basis for indicators of achievement (a) (i) and (b) (i) under subprogramme 2, Disasters and conflicts. In addition, queries were made regarding who was going to evaluate the categorization and capacity of the indicators. A view was expressed that UNEP had not integrated paragraph 187 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development into those indicators of achievement, even though the paragraph encouraged States to integrate early warning systems into national disaster risk reduction strategies and plans. Clarifications were sought on why subprogramme 2 diverted so significantly from the agreed outcomes of the Conference.

231. Concern was also expressed about the formulation of indicators of achievement (a) (i) and (b) (i) under subprogramme 2, in particular with regard to the reference to progressing "at least one step in four of six categories". Although there was a footnote to explain further the measurement of the indicators of achievement, it was still unclear and not easily understood. Queries were made as to whether there was a resolution that endorsed that concept of measurement. Clarifications were sought on the country capacity framework and the concern was raised that it had not been approved by Member States.

232. Issues were raised concerning subprogramme 3, Ecosystem management, and the reference to the Convention on Biological Diversity in paragraph 11.20 (c) of the strategy. An enquiry was made as to what activities were being carried out by UNEP to support implementation of the Convention. The view was expressed that UNEP should provide, upon request, increased support, especially to developing countries, to implement the Convention. Regarding paragraph 11.20 (c), a delegation called for caution when it came to the application of programmes outside national jurisdictions.

233. In addition, concerns were raised, also under subprogramme 3, about indicator of achievement (a) (iii) and about UNEP support to countries that were improving their water quality framework based on the International Water Quality Guidelines, as those guidelines had not been approved and therefore should not have been included as an indicator in the biennial programme plan.

234. It was noted that the text of the objective of subprogramme 4, Environmental governance, included the words "to facilitate a transition towards environmental sustainability in the context of sustainable development", which were not in line

with the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. A more appropriate wording of the objective would be "strengthening synergies and coherence in environmental governance in order to facilitate the promotion of sustainable development".

235. Observations were also made on subprogramme 5, Chemicals and waste. It was suggested that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement should refer to the Minamata Convention on Mercury. The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants should also be referred to in paragraph 11.23 (c) of the strategy. Clarification was requested regarding the type of activities that would be implemented to achieve the expected accomplishment and, in particular, how the organization would support national programmes.

236. Member States praised UNEP on the establishment of subprogramme 7, Environment, under review, but requested more clarification on the UNEP system of data collection under the subprogramme.

237. An enquiry was made as to where in the biennial programme UNEP addressed dust and sand storms and their impact on human health.

Conclusions and recommendations

238. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 11, Environment, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 11.2

Replace the first sentence of the paragraph with two new paragraphs, reading:

The United Nations Environment Programme, as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

Its objective during the period 2014-2017 is to promote the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development based on the recognition that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production, and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives and essential requirements of sustainable development, as well as on the protection and sustainable use of ecosystem services, coherent and improved environmental governance and the reduction of environmental risks.

Paragraph 11.5

At the end of the first sentence, insert "in its three dimensions".

Paragraph 11.7

Replace the words "UNEP will achieve that" with "UNEP will work with Member States in these areas".

Paragraph 11.8

Replace the words "conflict prevention mandates" with "post-conflict recovery mandates".

At the end of the first sentence, insert "(c) build strong interlinkages among disaster risk reduction, recovery and long-term development planning; (d) develop strategies that integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation considerations into investments, decision-making and the planning of humanitarian and development actions; (e) assist vulnerable or crisis-affected countries and communities by providing, upon request, environmental expertise, with particular attention paid to vulnerable groups and highly vulnerable ecosystems."

In the third sentence, after the words "and pilot new approaches to natural resource management", insert "in countries interested in following such approaches".

Paragraph 11.11

At the end of the first sentence, insert "including those related to mining activities".

In the second sentence, after the word "e-waste", insert "and disposal of chemicals resulting from illegal mining".

Paragraph 11.12

Replace the first sentence with the following:

UNEP will advocate for policy reforms and changes in private sector management practices, when applicable, and will work towards increased consumer awareness, taking into consideration gender differences.

In the fourth sentence, replace the words "in such a transition" with "in the implementation of green economy policies for the transition towards sustainable development as a common undertaking".

Subprogramme 1
Climate change

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (c) with the following:

(c) Support, in cooperation with other organizations and in accordance with their respective mandates, the implementation of REDD-plus strategies and systems for information on safeguards and the development of forest monitoring systems and reference levels, so that they evolve into results-based actions that are fully measured,

reported and verified and so as to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (c) with the following:

(c) Increase in the number and percentage of developing countries that have developed and implemented REDD-plus strategies and are in a position to obtain and receive payments for results-based actions, as a result of UNEP assistance

Strategy

Paragraph 11.16 (b)

In the first sentence, replace the words "UNEP will facilitate the move to low-emission development pathways and the implementation of green economy strategies" with "UNEP will advocate for, and support, upon request, the move towards low-emission strategies, through the promotion of mitigation and adaptation measures".

Paragraph 11.16 (c)

Replace the words "In support of the Cancun agreements reached in December 2010" with "In support of the Warsaw framework for REDD-plus agreed in November 2013".

At the end of the first sentence, replace the words "the development of national REDD-plus strategies and finance approaches" with "developing countries progression towards results-based actions. For that purpose, upon request of interested countries, UNEP will work with relevant partners to support the development and implementation of the requirements to obtain and receive results-based payments, namely REDD-plus national strategies, forest reference levels, forest monitoring systems and systems for providing information on safeguards, in accordance with the modalities and procedures agreed by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change".

Subprogramme 2
Disasters and conflicts

Objective of the Organization

The objective of the Organization should read:

To promote the sustainable use of natural resources and the reduction of environmental degradation by addressing the environmental challenges in the context of disaster risk reduction, as well as post-disaster and post-conflict recovery activities

Indicators of achievement

Indicator of achievement (a) (i) should read "Percentage of countries assisted by UNEP with increased capacity to use natural resource and environmental management to prevent and reduce natural and man-made disasters".

Indicator of achievement (b) (i) should read "Percentage of countries affected by natural and/or man-made disasters that improve their capacity to use natural resource and environmental management, with the assistance of UNEP, to support sustainable recovery from disasters and conflicts".

Indicator of achievement (b) (ii) should read "Percentage of countries assisted by UNEP that develop policies and strategies aimed at increasing their capacity to recover sustainably from disasters and conflicts".

Strategy

Paragraph 11.18 (b)

In paragraph 11.18 (b), replace the words "green jobs" with "decent and productive jobs".

Subprogramme 3
Ecosystems management

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (iii), delete "based on the International Water Quality Guidelines".

Strategy

Paragraph 11.19

In the third sentence, replace "integrate the value of natural capital in decision-making" with "integrate the value of natural capital, including biodiversity and ecosystem services, in decision-making".

Paragraph 11.20 (a)

Replace the words "ecosystem services and productivity of landscapes" with "ecosystem services, ecosystem productivity".

Before the words "access and benefit-sharing" insert "but not limited to".

Subprogramme 4
Environmental governance

Objective of the Organization

Delete the words "a transition towards".

Indicators of achievement

At the end of indicator of achievement (b) (i), insert "at the request of those countries".

In indicator of achievement (b) (i), replace the words "enforce the rule of law" with "develop and enforce national laws".

Strategy

Paragraph 11.22 (b)

Replace the second sentence with the following:

With other United Nations partners, UNEP will support, at the request of Governments, efforts to develop and enforce environmental laws, and comply with relevant international environmental standards and obligations, including through legal technical assistance, training and other legal capacity-building activities.

Subprogramme 5
Chemicals and waste

Objective of the Organization

The objective of the Organization should read

To promote among countries the achievement of sound management of chemicals and waste in order to minimize impacts on the environment and human health

Subprogramme 6
Resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Expected accomplishment (a) should read:

(a) Cross-sectoral scientific assessments, research and tools for sustainable consumption and production, in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, developed, shared and applied by policymakers, including in urban practices

Indicators of achievement

Indicator of achievement (a) (i) should read "Increased number of countries and cities that develop and integrate sustainable consumption and production approaches and tools, as a result of UNEP assistance".

Strategy

Paragraph 11.24

After the words "poverty eradication", insert "in accordance with what was agreed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development".

Paragraph 11.26 (a)

After the words "poverty eradication", insert "in accordance with what was agreed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development".

Paragraph 11.26 (b)

In the third sentence, replace the words "high-impact sectors" with "high-impact targeted sectors dependent on natural resources".

Delete the sentence "Targeted sectors include construction, food and agriculture, tourism and related industries dependent on natural resources".

Paragraph 11.26 (c)

In the third sentence, delete "in particular sustainable public procurement and supporting infrastructure that allow for sustainable lifestyles".

Subprogramme 7
Environment under review

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c) (i), replace the word "intervention" with "assistance".

Programme 12
Human settlements

239. At its 16th meeting, on 11 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 12, Human settlements, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 12)).

240. The Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

241. Support was expressed for programme 12, Human settlements, of the biennial programme plan for 2016-2017, and appreciation was expressed in respect of the benefits for Member States of the implementation of this programme.

242. Delegations noted the degree of consultations between UN-Habitat and the Committee of Permanent Representatives in preparing the proposed biennial programme plan for 2016-2017 and in proposing changes in various paragraphs under "Overall orientation", in particular the addition of paragraph 12.22, which highlighted the support for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), scheduled for 2016. In this respect, some delegations sought clarification on the use of the title "New Urban Agenda" for the outcome document of Habitat III.

243. Questions were raised concerning the intensity of the implementation of the approved strategic framework for 2014-2015 in the context of the current financial difficulties faced by UN-Habitat.

244. The view was expressed that the use of the matrix structure in which each subprogramme was cross-referenced with all regional offices to implement the programme of work was an innovative approach. Some delegations sought clarification on the implementation of the human settlements programme by the regional offices of UN-Habitat within the United Nations Development Assistance Framework. In this context, clarification was also sought and provided on the use of the term "where possible" in paragraph 12.18.

245. Some delegations noted the changes in paragraph 12.20 compared with the relevant paragraphs in the report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/68/75). They expressed their views on mainstreaming the cross-cutting issues, namely, youth, human rights and climate change, throughout the human settlements programme and requested information on the cooperation and collaboration of UN-Habitat with other United Nations organizations in executing its programme of work. Questions were also raised concerning the mandate of UN-Habitat in addressing the issues of young people.

246. With regard to the nature and scope of work of UN-Habitat in the areas related to urban safety as mentioned in expected accomplishment (c) and indicators of achievement (c) (i) and (ii) under subprogramme 1, Urban legislation, land and governance, information was requested on the cooperation and collaboration of UN-Habitat with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; how synergies were created between them as a result of such collaboration; and the mandate of UN-Habitat in the area of drugs and crime issues.

247. Some delegations sought and were provided with clarification on the relationship between expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b) under subprogramme 1. Clarifications were also sought and provided on paragraph 12.24 (b) of the strategy for this subprogramme.

248. Some delegations sought clarifications on the terms "the international guidelines on decentralization and the guidelines on access to basic services for all", mentioned in paragraph 12.27 (a) under subprogramme 4, Urban basic services; on the definition of the term "partner countries" as used in several expected accomplishments and related indicators of achievement under subprogramme 5, Housing and slum upgrading; and on the work of UN-Habitat with the Habitat University Network Initiative, the Korea IUTC project, the Cities Alliance Dissemination Strategy for the Quick Guides on Housing the Poor in Africa, as mentioned in paragraph 12.30 (c) under subprogramme 7, Research and capacity development.

249. Some delegations sought and were provided with clarifications on measures taken by UN-Habitat to strengthen results-based management, particularly with regard to the evaluations undertaken on three levels, namely, corporate evaluations, programme and project evaluations, and self-evaluations as indicated in paragraph 12.21.

250. Some delegations noted that the strategic direction of UN-Habitat would change once the post-2015 development agenda was approved by the General Assembly and the outcome of Habitat III was agreed upon.

251. The view was expressed that the objective of subprogramme 5, Housing and slum upgrading, was unclear in comparison with that of the same subprogramme in the biennial programme plan and priorities for 2014-2015. Clarifications were requested on the definition of the concept of "sustainable and adequate housing".

252. The point was made that the concept of socially inclusive and climate-resilient cities, although mentioned in the objective of subprogramme 2, Urban planning and design, was not reflected in any of the related expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. Similarly, it was noted that the term "inclusive economic development" had been replaced by "inclusive economic growth" in the objective of subprogramme 3, Urban economy.

253. Questions were raised concerning the formulation of indicators of achievement (c) (i) and (ii) in subprogramme 5, Housing and slum upgrading, which refer to domestic policies of the partner countries. Clarifications were sought on the linkage of the work of UN-Habitat to those domestic policies. In addition, a question was raised concerning the deletion of indicator of achievement (b) (ii) under subprogramme 6, Risk reduction and rehabilitation, which was included in the current biennial programme plan for 2014-2015 as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/68/75).

Conclusions and recommendations

254. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 12, Human settlements, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 12.13

Add "and productive" after the word "decent".

Paragraph 12.21

Add the words "as adopted by the General Assembly" after "the conclusions and recommendations of the sessions of the World Urban Forum".

Paragraph 12.22

Replace the first sentence with the following:

Acting as the Habitat III secretariat, UN-Habitat will provide substantive support to intergovernmental negotiations on the outcome document of Habitat III, to be entitled, if agreed by Member states, "New Urban Agenda", at both the regional and global levels.

Delete the words "entitled 'New Urban Agenda'" from the end of the last sentence.

Subprogramme 1
Urban legislation, land and governance

Strategy

Paragraph 12.24

In paragraph 12.24 (d), delete the words "as assets and agents of change".

Subprogramme 2
Urban planning and design

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To improve policies, plans and designs for more compact, socially inclusive, better integrated and connected cities that foster sustainable urban development and are resilient to climate change

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with "Improved national urban policies or spatial frameworks for compact, integrated and connected, socially inclusive cities adopted by partner metropolitan, regional and national authorities".

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with "Improved policies, plans and designs for compact, integrated and connected, socially inclusive cities and neighbourhoods adopted by partner cities".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with the following:

(a) Increased number of partner metropolitan, regional and national authorities that have adopted national urban policies or spatial frameworks that support compact, integrated and connected, socially inclusive cities

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with the following:

(b) Increased number of partner cities that have adopted and implemented policies, plans or designs for compact, integrated and connected, socially inclusive cities and neighbourhoods

In indicator of achievement (c), add "and implemented" after the word "adopted".

Subprogramme 3
Urban economy

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To improve urban strategies and policies that promote inclusive economic development, sustainable livelihoods and enhanced municipal finance

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b), add, at the end: "displaced populations, the disabled community and other vulnerable populations".

Subprogramme 4
Urban basic services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), add the word "partner" before "local, regional and national authorities".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b), add "and impact" after the word "amount".

Subprogramme 5
Housing and slum upgrading

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (c), add the words "advocate on their own behalf and" after "Enhanced capacity of slum communities to".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (i) with "Increased community representation in coordinating bodies of partner countries, such as the national Habitat committees".

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (ii) with "Increased number of communities in partner countries that are empowered to lead and implement initiatives".

Strategy

Paragraph 12.28

Replace paragraph 12.28 (c) with the following:

(c) UN-Habitat will cooperate with partner national authorities in facilitating the participation of slum communities in relevant coordinating bodies in this area, such as the national Habitat committees. Furthermore, UN-Habitat will enhance its cooperation with local, regional and national partners with the purpose of

increasing ownership of all actors aimed at sustaining continued efforts, the upscaling of housing and slum upgrading and prevention initiatives.

Subprogramme 6
Risk reduction and rehabilitation

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (c), add "and related infrastructure" after the word "shelter".

Programme 13
International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice

255. At its 18th meeting, on 12 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 13)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the review of the proposed biennial programme plan by sectoral, functional and regional bodies (E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1/Add.2).

256. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

257. Appreciation was expressed for the important work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the efforts made to improve programme delivery. Appreciation was also expressed for the role of UNODC in enhancing coordination and cooperation among United Nations and other organizations regarding drug control and crime and terrorism prevention. In that regard, a question was raised as to which were the most relevant United Nations system partners of the Office. Note was taken of the comments made during the meetings of the functional commissions in their consideration of the proposed strategic framework of UNODC for the biennium 2016-2017.

258. It was noted that reference to the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as a policymaking organ appeared to be a mischaracterization. It was emphasized that the Congress was a consultative body.

259. Views were expressed in support of the full cost recovery model that had been approved by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The view was expressed that it was vital for UNODC to implement that model and to ensure that the implementation was not retroactive. The view was also expressed that programme support costs should be reviewed with full transparency. There was recognition of the decision of UNODC to not apply programme support costs for activities in the field. The UNODC cost-saving measures were encouraged, and in that regard it was suggested that UNODC consider reducing its footprint at its headquarters.

260. Clarification was sought on the differences between the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2016-2017 and the approved text of the programme plan for the biennium 2014-2015. The view was expressed that the approved text for the previous biennium reflected a consensus and that some modifications contained

in the proposed text did not contribute to a better understanding of the programme. Examples that were mentioned included the use of the phrase "drug trafficking" without the word "illicit" and "transnational crime" rather than "transnational organized crime".

261. Concern was expressed that some recommendations made by the Committee at its fifty-second session (A/67/16) had not been taken on board, such as the recommendation to place the activities related to countering illicit drug trafficking under a separate subprogramme.

262. Delegations indicated that some of the terms used in the framework needed to be clarified in the light of the mandates in which they originated. In this regard, it was stated that the use of terms and definitions should be fully aligned with the relevant international legal instruments and resolutions.

263. It was reiterated that the assistance provided to Member States should be based on requests for such assistance by the recipient Member State.

264. Clarification was sought regarding the use of the acronym UNODC in the Spanish version of the proposed strategic framework instead of ONUDD, which corresponds to the title formalized in the Secretary-General's bulletin (ST/SGB/2004/6).

265. While the importance of the promotion of human rights was recognized, the need for avoiding overlapping functions and duplication with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights was highlighted. In addition, the need for a balanced approach in the activities performed by UNODC was mentioned. Thus, fundamental human rights should be respected in carrying out both the demand and supply reduction pillars of the world drug problem, especially in issues related to alternative development and preventive alternative development and also when considering and implementing measures to eradicate the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Another aspect underlined was that of the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

266. A request was made that the wide cross-section of stakeholders, including foundations, non-governmental organizations, private sector entities, partnerships, networks, United Nations agencies, regional programmes and multilateral bodies, with which UNODC undertakes joint activities or benefits from, be clarified and named.

267. The need to review the funding model of UNODC was stressed.

268. It was noted that the interlocutors with which UNODC interacted regularly and the organizational structure of UNODC needed clarity. Encouragement was expressed regarding the efforts of UNODC to improve cost efficiency and evaluation activities. Clarification was sought as to how UNODC shared best practices across its various organizational units.

269. Under "Overall orientation", it was noted that the meaning of the term "most vulnerable persons in society" (para. 13.1) was not clear and appeared to restrict the scope of the work of UNODC. Similarly, it was noted that the meaning of "balanced approach" (para. 13.2) and the reason for including "rule of law" as one of the areas on which global trafficking networks were having an impact (para. 13.3) were not clear.

270. Clarification was sought regarding textual differences in paragraphs 13.4 and 13.5 of the proposed strategic framework as compared with paragraphs 13.3 and 13.4 of the biennial programme plan for 2014-2015 (A/67/6/Rev.1) and on the deletion of reference to the "strategy for the period 2012-2015" (ibid., para. 13.6), and reversion to the earlier language was suggested. A question was raised whether UNODC would require intergovernmental mandates to extend that strategy beyond 2015. Clarification was also sought regarding the mention of national and subregional programmes and the exclusion of the thematic programmes as contained in the previous biennial programme plan (ibid., para. 13.8).

271. With respect to subprogramme 1, Countering illicit drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, the question was raised whether UNODC had the mandate to include emerging drug and specific crime issues in the expected accomplishments and whether UNODC differentiated between technical assistance and technical cooperation. Clarification was sought regarding the deletion of indicator of achievement (a) (iii) of the programme plan for 2014-2015 and the reason for not reflecting all recommendations made by the Committee at its fifty-second session in the proposed text. Views were expressed that "increased number of States parties ratifying the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime" was not an appropriate indicator of achievement for UNODC, as ratification was an action of Member States.

272. With respect to subprogramme 2, Prevention, treatment and reintegration, and alternative development, the view was expressed that the rationale for replacing "reduction of drug abuse" in the programme plan for 2014-2015 with "to reduce vulnerabilities to drug use" in the proposed strategic framework in the objective of this subprogramme needed clarification. It was indicated that clarification was also required of the reason for the deletion of indicator of achievement (d) (ii) of the programme plan approved for the previous biennium and of the reason why mothers and children — the most vulnerable people — were excluded under expected accomplishments (a) and (c).

273. With regard to subprogramme 5, Justice, concern was expressed that the objective of the subprogramme referred only to United Nations standards and norms, while international standards and norms should also be mentioned. With regard to expected accomplishment and indicator of achievement (a), the view was expressed that rather than seeking to develop additional United Nations standards and norms, the Office should focus on enhancing the implementation of existing standards.

274. With regard to subprogramme 6, Research, trend analysis and forensics, clarification on indicator of achievement (c) was sought regarding the number of institutions and laboratories that received UNODC assistance or participated actively in the international collaborative exercise, as well as the level of increase anticipated and how the laboratories were selected.

275. With respect to subprogramme 7, Policy support, clarification was sought as to why indicator of achievement (a) (i) would seek to measure the number of unique visitors to the UNODC website rather than the number of page views.

276. With respect to subprogramme 8, Technical cooperation and field support, clarification was sought as to how the satisfaction of Member States would be

measured for indicator (a) (ii). Clarification was also sought regarding the definition of "human security" (para. 13.19 (c)) and whether UNODC had a related mandate.

Conclusions and recommendations

277. **The Committee expressed regret that the Secretary-General did not present a separate subprogramme on "Countering illicit drug trafficking" in the strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, as requested by the General Assembly. Therefore, the Committee reiterated its recommendation that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to propose the inclusion of a separate subprogramme on "Countering illicit drug trafficking" in the strategic framework for the period 2018-2019.**

278. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to use, across the board, the official name of the Office in all languages, as set out in Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/2004/6.**

279. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to use in the programme narrative definitions from the international legal instruments and those adopted by relevant resolutions, including the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (2009).**

280. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 13.1

Replace the last sentence of the paragraph with the following:

To achieve this, UNODC helps Member States to create and strengthen legislative, judicial and health systems to better safeguard their populations, especially the most vulnerable persons.

Paragraph 13.4

Replace the paragraph with the following:

13.4 Comprehensive legislation, effective international cooperation, public security, justice and a fair, accessible, accountable, effective and credible criminal justice system form the conceptual foundation for these joint responses. Furthermore, in this regard, the fight against the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility, requiring an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach, and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms. Therefore, there must be a

continued determination to overcome the world drug problem through the full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the demand for, the production of and trafficking in illicit drugs. A fair, accessible, accountable, effective and credible criminal justice system acts as a shield against the effects of crime, trafficking, corruption and instability. Development and the rule of law together promote the licit use of resources rather than their criminal abuse: trafficking in persons, trafficking in human organs and the smuggling of migrants, as well as illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, cultural property, drugs and firearms.

Paragraph 13.7

In the second sentence, delete the words "fully costed".

Paragraph 13.9

Replace the paragraph with the following:

13.9 The main United Nations policymaking organs in matters of international drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice, which function as governing bodies of the Office, are the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; UNODC also supports the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Subprogramme 1
Countering illicit drug trafficking and transnational organized crime

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (c), after the words "trafficking in persons", insert "trafficking in human organs".

Indicators of achievement

Under indicator of achievement (a), add a new indicator reading "(iii) Increased number of States parties ratifying the international drug control conventions with the assistance of UNODC".

At the end of indicator of achievement (b) (iii), add: "as well as of the Group with other relevant international organizations".

Strategy

Paragraph 13.12

Replace subparagraph (a) with the following:

(a) Promoting the ratification and implementation of the international instruments on drugs and organized crime and the protocols against trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and firearms, especially by providing policy advice at the global, regional

and national levels, legal advisory and legislative support services and technical assistance to strengthen the criminal justice system; protecting the rights of victims and witnesses of crime and those of smuggled migrants; preventing crime; and facilitating international cooperation.

In subparagraph (b), after the words "Assisting Member States", insert "upon request".

Subprogramme 2
Prevention, treatment and reintegration, and alternative development

Objective of the Organization

Replace the words "as well as to strengthen sustainable alternative development, where relevant" with "as well as to strengthen alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (a), add the words "especially preventing mother-to-child transmission".

In expected accomplishment (c), after the words "to help individuals", insert "especially mothers and children".

In expected accomplishment (d), replace the words "through alternative development or preventive alternative development" with "through alternative development, including preventive alternative development, where appropriate".

Strategy

Paragraph 13.13

In subparagraph (f), replace the words "shared responsibility" with "shared common responsibility".

Subprogramme 3
Countering corruption

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), delete the words "and the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice".

Indicators of achievement

Delete indicator of achievement (b) (iii).

Strategy

Paragraph 13.14

In subparagraph (h), delete the words "including the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice".

Subprogramme 4
Terrorism prevention

Strategy

Paragraph 13.15

In subparagraph (f), delete the words "including the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice".

Subprogramme 5
Justice

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the text approved in the programme plan for the biennium 2014-2015, reading:

(a) Increased assistance provided by UNODC in support of the development and updating of international standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with the text approved in the programme plan for 2014-2015, reading:

(a) Number of United Nations standards and norms relevant to specific areas of crime prevention and criminal justice developed or updated by countries with the support of UNODC, upon request

Strategy

Paragraph 13.16

In subparagraph (d), delete the words "including the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice".

Subprogramme 6
Research, trend analysis and forensics

Strategy

Paragraph 13.17

In subparagraph (c), after the words "Assisting Member States, upon request", insert "within the UNODC mandate".

Subprogramme 7
Policy support

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with the following:

(b) Advance the capacity of Member States to implement relevant international conventions and standards and norms under the

UNODC mandate, including through partnerships with relevant civil society entities

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b), after the words "non-governmental organizations", add "other relevant civil society organizations".

Subprogramme 8
Technical cooperation and field support

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

(a) Integrated programmes designed with the participation of recipient countries and implemented in close consultation with regional entities and partner countries, as appropriate

Strategy

Paragraph 13.19

In subparagraph (a), before the words "programme approach", insert "results-based".

In subparagraph (c), replace the words "human security" with "public security".

Subprogramme 9
Provision of secretariat services and substantive support to the governing bodies and the International Narcotics Control Board

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the objective of the Organization, add "and to enable the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to fulfil its advisory role".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add a new expected accomplishment (c) reading:

(c) Enhanced support by UNODC to the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to facilitate decision-making and policy direction

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator of achievement (c) reading:

(c) Percentage of Member States that participate in the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice expressing full satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of technical and substantive services provided by the Secretariat

Legislative mandates

Add the following General Assembly resolution: 68/192 Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

Add the following Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution: 23/2 Preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal

Programme 14
Gender equality and empowerment of women

281. At its 19th meeting, on 12 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 14, Gender equality and empowerment of women, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 14)).

282. The Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

283. Delegations expressed appreciation and support for the programme. On the whole, Member States expressed positive views of the programme, which reflected a high priority in the implementation of the programme's mandate on gender equality and the empowerment of women. Member States also expressed their support for gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system.

284. Concerns were raised that there should be more consistency throughout the text in terms of key phrases and language. It was mentioned that there were multiple variations in the text regarding the terms "gender equality" and "women's empowerment". Delegations stressed that the phrase "gender equality and the empowerment of women" should be used consistently throughout the text.

285. The view was expressed that UN-Women should undertake its activities in coordination with the countries involved and that any assistance and support would be provided to Member States at their request only.

286. Member States requested more information on the input of UN-Women to strengthening gender equality and women's empowerment issues in the post-2015 development agenda. The comment was made that UN-Women, in the context of that agenda, was planning too far ahead without approval of new mandates by the General Assembly. There were also queries as to the participation of civil society organizations and stakeholders in that agenda.

287. Questions were raised concerning the structuring of the office of UN-Women and how it had evolved since its establishment.

288. It was recalled that the biennial programme plan should reference resolutions and decisions when including key phrases and terminology.

289. It was emphasized that UN-Women should take a balanced approach to the three pillars of the United Nations and give equal importance to peace and security, development and human rights in implementing its mandate of gender equality and the empowerment of women. Concerns were raised that UN-Women gave less

importance to the development pillar in the context of gender equality and the empowerment of women and more importance to the other two pillars.

290. Questions were raised as to whether UN-Women was experiencing any challenges with the United Nations system-wide action plan on gender equality and the empowerment of women that had been approved by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination.

291. Delegations noted that indicators of achievement (a) (ii), (b) and (d) under subprogramme 1, Intergovernmental support, coordination and strategic partnerships, and indicator of achievement (b) under subprogramme 2, Policy and programme activities, should not refer to activities but rather focus on outcomes. The indicators should specify how the programme would measure and achieve the expected accomplishment.

292. Views were expressed that the indicators of achievement should focus more on the level of support provided or actions undertaken by UN-Women than on activities, for example:

(a) Under subprogramme 1, indicator of achievement (a) should specify the actions that UN-Women will carry out instead of the activities and expected accomplishment (b) should measure the number of accredited non-governmental organizations that participate in intergovernmental bodies such as the Commission on the Status of Women;

(b) Under subprogramme 2, expected accomplishment (b) should measure the number of women reached.

293. It was indicated that revisions to the indicators of achievement would be introduced during the informal meetings.

294. Comments were made to the effect that UN-Women support to intergovernmental bodies, as noted in the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement under subprogramme 1, was not suitable to measure the performance of UN-Women. Questions were raised as to how the related activities of UN-Women would enhance intergovernmental bodies' capacity to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, including the integration of gender perspectives into their spheres of activity. Furthermore, a query was made as to whether UN-Women had the capacity to carry out those activities.

295. Regarding expected accomplishment (d) under subprogramme 1, a clarification was sought regarding the type of partnerships that was meant as well as what stakeholders were included in the related indicator of achievement (d) (i).

296. A request was made for the status of UN-Women mobilization of voluntary contributions, as noted in indicator of achievement (d) (ii) under subprogramme 1, and for further detail on the activities that UN-Women was undertaking to mobilize those contributions. A question was also asked about what activities were funded by voluntary contributions.

297. While the important role and participation of civil society were emphasized, views were expressed that such participation could be undertaken only within the clear guidelines established by the General Assembly.

Conclusions and recommendations

298. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 14, Gender equality and empowerment of women, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 14.1

Replace the paragraph with the following:

14.1 The overall orientation of the programme, which is under the responsibility of UN-Women, is to achieve the elimination of discrimination against women and girls, the empowerment and advancement of women and the realization of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. The direction of the programme is provided by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/289 establishing the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) as a composite entity. The proposed strategic framework for 2016-2017 is aligned with the strategic plan of UN-Women for 2014 to 2017 (UNW/2013/6), endorsed by the UN-Women Executive Board in September 2013.

Paragraph 14.3

Delete the first sentence.

Paragraph 14.4

Replace the paragraph with the following:

14.4 During the 2016-2017 period, the programme is expected to continue to concentrate its efforts on the following six strategic plan goals: (a) increasing women's leadership and participation in all areas that affect their lives, including in political and economic areas; (b) increasing women's access to economic empowerment and opportunities, especially for those who are most excluded, particularly women living in poverty; (c) preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls and expanding access to survivor services; (d) increasing women's leadership in peace, security and humanitarian response; (e) strengthening the responsiveness of plans and budgets in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women at all levels; and (f) supporting the development of global norms, policies and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Paragraph 14.5

Replace the paragraph with the following:

14.5 As it delivers support in those areas, the programme will create strategic partnerships that will lead to more effective coordination, coherence and gender mainstreaming across the United Nations system. It will carry out its work in coordination with other United Nations entities in order to avoid duplication of work. It will provide overall leadership, strengthen such mechanisms and continue to promote and enhance accountability for gender equality and the empowerment of women in the United Nations system, including by assisting United Nations entities with the implementation of the system-wide action plan on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Paragraph 14.6

Replace the paragraph with the following:

14.6 The programme of work of UN-Women is driven, among other things, by the principle of universality. The achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women is central to the mandate of UN-Women and is addressed across all its priority areas of work.

Subprogramme 1
Intergovernmental support, coordination and strategic partnerships

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

(a) Enhanced support from UN-Women for the activities of intergovernmental bodies, especially the Commission on the Status of Women, for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including the integration of gender perspectives into their spheres of activity

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), add the words "in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996".

Indicators of achievement

Add an indicator of achievement (a) (iii), reading:

(iii) Increased number of intergovernmental bodies integrating gender perspectives into their spheres of activity, including as a result of the efforts of UN-Women

Strategy

Paragraph 14.8 (a)

Replace the subparagraph with the following:

(a) Promoting actions and providing assistance to Member States, upon their request, for the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and its review outcomes, the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and other United Nations instruments and resolutions that support, address and contribute to gender equality and the empowerment of women, as well as obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Paragraph 14.8 (b)

Add the words "and effective" after "substantive".

Paragraph 14.8 (c)

At the end of the subparagraph, add the words "as appropriate".

Paragraph 14.8 (d)

Replace the subparagraph with the following:

(d) Increasing awareness and understanding of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including through educational activities, information dissemination and outreach, using different channels, such as websites, social media and print products.

Paragraph 14.8 (e)

Insert "and women's issues" after the word "equality".

Paragraph 14.8 (f)

Replace the subparagraph with the following:

(f) Leading and supporting system-wide and inter-agency collaboration on gender equality and the empowerment of women through the promotion of joint action, collaboration in United Nations country teams and their gender theme groups, and facilitation of the establishment and use of accountability frameworks of the United Nations system on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Paragraph 14.8 (g)

Replace the subparagraph with the following:

(g) Supporting cooperation among countries, as well as the mechanisms established for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, at the regional and subregional levels.

Paragraph 14.8 (i)

Replace the subparagraph with the following:

(i) Building and strengthening strategic partnerships focused on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women to achieve a robust resource base.

Subprogramme 2
Policy and programme activities

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To enhance efforts in the elimination of discrimination against women and girls and the achievement of gender equality and their empowerment in, inter alia, the fields of development, human rights and peace and security, including by leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system in this regard

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c) (i), replace the words "at the national level" with "at the country level".

Strategy

Paragraph 14.9 (a)

At the end of the subparagraph, add the words "and their impact on the situation of women".

Paragraph 14.9 (c)

Insert the word "their" before "commitments".

Paragraph 14.9 (d)

Replace the subparagraph with the following:

(d) Leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system, including to the United Nations country and regional teams and their gender theme groups, in their work on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Legislative mandates

Add the agreed conclusions of the Commission of the Status of Women, 2014.

Programme 15
Economic and social development in Africa

299. At its 12th meeting, on 9 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 15, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 15)).

300. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

301. Delegations expressed appreciation and support for the programme and commended the Commission for its focus on the sustainable development agenda and the integration of sustainable development in the programme of work. Member States expressed satisfaction with the restructuring and reorganization of the programme in the previous biennium and were pleased with the presentation of the overall orientation and the methodology used in implementing the subprogrammes.

302. Delegations noted that the reorganization had resulted in the reduction of the number of subprogrammes from 10 to 9 and enquired about the impact on the programme and results achieved.

303. The view was expressed that the orientation of the subprogrammes needed to be aligned with the African Union's Agenda 2063, the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the post-2015 development goals. Questions were raised as to the ways in which they would be reflected in the subprogrammes.

304. It was pointed out that critical elements, such as environment and industrialization, were sectoral, and Member States enquired about the ways in which such sectoral issues would be addressed by ECA.

305. Member States also expressed appreciation for the Commission's work in statistics, as the continent had been struggling in that area for a long time.

306. Member States noted the third-party evaluations system of ECA and the programme's emphasis on accountability, and expressed the view that such measures were a good example of how other regional commissions could approach the issue. It was noted that there existed possible synergies and efficiencies among the regional commissions on accountability. Member States enquired about the progress made with the Commission's internal approach to accountability and how productive it had been with the programme. They also enquired whether the new accountability framework and evaluation policy was a new approach for the programme.

307. Member States discussed the Commission's work in the area of capacity development and enquired whether the Capacity Development Division, referred to in subprogramme 5, Capacity development, shared staff with other divisions and, if so, whether that posed any challenges.

308. It was suggested that the regional coordination mechanism, which provided support for the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union beyond 2016 within the context of the African Union partnership and development, should be included in the indicators of achievement of the subprogramme.

309. Member States noted the support for gender provided by ECA under subprogramme 6 and requested reassurance about the successful implementation of the subprogramme.

310. Views were expressed on the 2012-2013 performance report, which included comments on the challenges of the previous biennium. Member States referred to the need to establish a new strategy on capacity-building, as noted in the report, and enquired about the challenges faced by ECA and the remedies applied in the area of capacity-building in the biennium 2012-2013.

311. Concerns were expressed that subprogramme 1, Macroeconomic policy, should focus on strengthening the public sector, as that approach was not set out in the expected accomplishments or indicators of achievement.

312. Member States also raised concerns about the methodology used with the expected accomplishments in subprogramme 3, Innovations, technologies and management of Africa's natural resources.

313. Moreover, Member States queried ECA about its views regarding natural disasters and climate change under subprogramme 9, Social development policy.

Conclusions and recommendations

314. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 15, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (i), replace the word "with" with "implementing".

Strategy

Paragraph 15.12

In the third sentence, after the word "opportunities", add "gender equality and women's empowerment".

Subprogramme 2
Regional integration and trade

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (iii), replace the word "incentivizing" with "attracting".

Subprogramme 3
Innovations, technologies and management of Africa's natural resources

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (ii), add the words "national or" after "based on".

In indicator of achievement (c), add at the end "and/or their national policies".

Subprogramme 5
Capacity development

Indicators of achievement

Add new indicator of achievement (a) (iii) reading:

(iii) Increased support for the development of the post-Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme plan for the United Nations partnership with the African Union

Subprogramme 6
Gender and women in development

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (iii), delete the words "divisions and offices, individually and/or collaboratively".

Subprogramme 7
Subregional activities for development

Component 2
Subregional activities in West Africa

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a), add "and subregional" after the word "country".

Add indicator of achievement (b) (ii), reading:

(ii) Increased number of policy recommendations and advisory services rendered to post-conflict countries

Component 3
Subregional activities in Central Africa

In indicator of achievement (a), add "and subregional" after the word "country".

Add indicator of achievement (b) (ii), reading:

(ii) Increased number of policy recommendations and advisory services rendered to post-conflict countries

Component 4
Subregional activities in East Africa

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), add the word "small" before "island".

Component 5
Subregional activities in Southern Africa

In indicator of achievement (a), add "and subregional" after the word "country".

Subprogramme 9
Social development policy

Strategy

Paragraph 15.62

Add "as well as people who have been affected by natural disasters, climate change and conflicts" after the word "migration".

Programme 16
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

315. At its 12th meeting, on 9 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 16, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 16)). The Committee also had before it an addendum to the note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework (E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1/Add.1).

316. The Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

317. Delegations expressed their support for the priorities of the Commission as mentioned by the Executive Secretary in her introductory statement. A request was made to further streamline the list of relevant mandates and include only those recently adopted.

318. Clarification was sought on the use and definition of the terms "inclusive and sustainable development", "inclusive, sustainable and resilient development" and "inclusive, equitable, sustainable and resilient development" in subprogramme 1, Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development, and subprogramme 5, Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction and management.

319. Questions were raised concerning the attainment of gender equality in various social and economic areas in 2016-2017, compared with the achievements in that area in 2014-2015.

320. Clarification was provided on the use of the term "informal sector" in paragraph 16.7 and the phrase "cross-sectoral synergies for electronic resilience" in paragraph 16.31.

321. It was pointed out that the General Assembly had yet to take a decision on the report of the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, which included recommendations on the need for statistics for sustainable development. Some delegations, referring to paragraph 16.8, raised questions concerning the importance of statistics and the connection with the functioning and programme of work of the Commission.

322. The view was expressed that indicator of achievement (b) under subprogramme 1, Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development, should be replaced with an indicator specifying the actual collective actions rather than the number of outcome documents reflecting consensus on regional economic and financial cooperation.

Conclusions and recommendations

323. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 16, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 5
Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction and management

Objective of the Organization

Replace the words, "space applications and disaster risk reduction strategies and management" with "space applications, and disaster risk reduction and management strategies".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (c), replace the words "space applications and disaster risk reduction strategies and management" with "space applications, and disaster risk reduction and management strategies".

Subprogramme 6
Social development

Strategy

Paragraph 16.35

At the end of the last sentence, insert "which was adopted by a vote".

Programme 17
Economic development in Europe

324. At its 14th meeting, on 10 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 17, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 17) and Corr.1).

325. The Acting Director General of the United Nations Office at Geneva and Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

326. Appreciation and support were expressed for the programme. The successful completion of the review of the reform, which had resulted in greater transparency, was welcomed. The programme was commended for its efforts towards greater integration and promotion of well-being and prosperity, and recognized for the progress made in its respective areas. The importance of the attention given to gender by the programme was highlighted and welcomed. It was noted that the programme had a positive effect on the citizens in the region and that it played an important role in coordination among relevant organizations to complement synergies, avoid overlap and duplication, ensure system-wide coherence and disseminate good practices. The view was expressed that the programme played a major role in the economic sphere and an active role in the area of sustainable development.

327. Clarification was sought on how the results of the discussion on economic development and creating a competitive economy were affecting ECE and how they translated into the implementation of the subprogrammes. Attention was drawn to the lack of reference to results-based management in the fascicle and elaboration was sought on such management in the programme. Elaboration was also requested on the important elements of the programme as reflected in the programme performance report of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013, particularly the amendment to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes that had opened the Convention for accession by all Member States and ensured equal access to water worldwide. Questions were raised on the challenges for the forthcoming biennium, and how the differing levels of development in the region were dealt with in the implementation of the programme.

328. It was noted that changes had been made in the proposed strategic framework as compared to that of 2014-2015.

329. With regard to subprogramme 2, Transport, clarification was sought on how indicator of achievement (b) (i) was linked to the expected accomplishment if the contracting parties were not within the region, and how indicator of achievement (c) (ii) was linked to the expected accomplishment when the indicator of achievement included members outside the scope of the programme.

330. With regard to subprogramme 3, Statistics, the view was expressed that the scope of the objective as drafted appeared to go beyond the extent of ECE activities.

331. Concerns were raised that the section on legislative mandates specific to ECE subprogrammes, subprogramme 5, Sustainable energy, did not contain an exhaustive list of references to resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, which constituted the body of intergovernmental mandates relevant to ECE activities in the field of energy.

Conclusions and recommendations

332. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 17, Economic development in Europe, of**

the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:

Overall orientation

Paragraphs 17.2 and 17.3

Replace paragraph 17.2 with the following and delete paragraph 17.3:

17.2. The overarching theme of the programme is sustainable development, which will be achieved through implementing the agreed mandates of and strengthening the synergies among its eight subprogrammes: (a) environment; (b) transport; (c) statistics; (d) economic cooperation and integration; (e) sustainable energy; (f) trade; (g) forestry and timber; and (h) housing, land management and population. Consistent with the legislative mandates, including Commission decision A (65) of 11 April 2013 on the outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE and other legislative mandates, the programme will promote sustainable development and regional cooperation and integration through (a) policy dialogue; (b) normative work; and (c) technical cooperation.

Paragraph 17.3 (formerly 17.4)

Replace the existing paragraph with the following:

17.3. In particular, ECE will provide a neutral platform for regional policy dialogue on economic, social and environmental issues among its 56 member States. It will support the normative work through the exchange of experiences and the development and implementation of international legal instruments, norms and standards, as well as the identification and dissemination of best practices in and outside the region. It will promote technical cooperation with countries in the region, including economies in transition, with a view to integrating them into the world economy and achieving sustainable development in the region.

Paragraph 17.4

After paragraph 17.3, insert a new paragraph, reading:

17.4. The programme is expected to continue to actively contribute to the global development agenda, including by defining standards that could be used by developing countries, possibly by opening up ECE legal instruments to global participation, by taking joint action with other regional commissions and United Nations entities and by contributing to North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation in close consultation with the broader United Nations development system through the United Nations Development Group.

Paragraph 17.5

In the first sentence, after the words "women constitute", insert "more than".

New paragraph 17.13

After paragraph 17.12, insert a new paragraph, reading:

17.13. The programme will continue to focus on delivering concrete results that seek to improve people's daily lives.

Programme 18
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

333. At its 17th meeting, on 11 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 18, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 18)).

334. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

335. Delegations expressed support for the programme, the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the important role it played in the region, including the Commission's provision of advice and expertise in various thematic areas. They also expressed satisfaction with the proposed strategic direction of the Commission, in particular its flexibility in connection with the post-2015 development agenda and the resulting internationally agreed sustainable development goals that allowed for the incorporation of future decisions, without pre-empting decisions of the General Assembly on the issue. It was also observed that the proposal incorporated elements of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want".

336. Appreciation was expressed for the consultative process carried out with States members of the Commission for the review of the proposed biennial programme plan, leading up to the endorsement of the plan by the Commission during its thirty-fifth session, held from 5 to 9 May 2014 in Lima. Delegations also expressed appreciation for such an important consultative process having been conducted in strict observance of regulation 4.8 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).

337. Appreciation was also expressed for the work of the Commission in fostering economic integration at the subregional and regional levels, promoting the dialogue on the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and the resulting internationally agreed sustainable development goals, facilitating sustainable development by helping to bridge the economic, social and environmental gaps between and among countries, including through the Commission's proposed compacts for equality and sustainable development.

338. Delegations requested that the Commission continue to develop close cooperation with regional mechanisms and integration processes such as the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, the Union of South American Nations, the Caribbean Community, the Latin American Integration Association, the Common Market of the South, the Central American Integration System and the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America — Peoples' Trade Treaty.

339. Delegations also encouraged the Commission to continue to prioritize activities and to coordinate with other agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in order to avoid duplication of effort.

340. Concern was expressed in relation to a reduction in the level of information provided to the Committee in the document containing the proposed strategic framework for programme 18 for the period 2016-2017. Regret was expressed that the Secretariat had decided, without a specific mandate from the Committee or the General Assembly, to reduce the information contained in the programmes before it.

341. Clarification was sought concerning the dissemination of information, including analytical work and other activities through the Commission's website and databases. The point was made that this aspect had previously been included in the programme and the query concerned whether ECLAC continued to carry out this important activity.

342. A question was raised concerning the impact of recent budgetary reductions on the programme of work of the Commission.

343. With regard to subprogramme 3, Macroeconomic policies and growth, it was observed that the Commission would conduct applied research into the macroeconomic and long-term growth performance and policies of Latin American and Caribbean countries, as well as the region as a whole. A question was raised concerning successful policies that had been applied in the region, including those that worked best for the Latin American and Caribbean region.

344. With regard to subprogramme 7, Population and development, it was observed that no mention of the agreements reached in the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development had been included as part of expected accomplishments (a) and (b). Arguing that those agreements reflected the vision of States members of the Commission for the region for the coming years, the view was expressed that they should be duly noted in the framework. The view was expressed that, in the proposed changes for subprogramme 7, indicator of achievement (b) could not be attributed only to activities carried out by ECLAC, as many other United Nations bodies worked in the same area. Delegations further enquired about the role of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Population Fund in the area of population activities.

345. With regard to subprogramme 14, Support for regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations, which was established at the beginning of the biennium 2014-2015, it was observed that the framework and strategic direction of the subprogramme were well structured and appropriately reflected issues related to the post-2015 development agenda and the resulting internationally agreed sustainable development goals. It was further observed that the legislative mandates emanating from the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, held in May in Lima, were not listed under this subprogramme.

346. With regard to legislative mandates, delegations observed that the list of resolutions and decisions was not comprehensive and that revisions would be required.

Conclusions and recommendations

347. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 18, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 7
Population and development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), add "and the regional agenda on population and development for Latin America and the Caribbean, as agreed in the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development," after the word "Development".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b), add "including the regional agenda on population and development for Latin America and the Caribbean, as agreed in the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development" after the word "development".

Legislative mandates

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

Add the following resolution: 690 (XXXV) Lima resolution

Subprogramme 2
Production and innovation

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

Add the following resolution:

691 (XXXV) Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subprogramme 6
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

Add the following resolution:

677 (XXXV) Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subprogramme 7
Population and development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

Add the following resolution:

681 (XXXV) Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subprogramme 10
Planning of public administration

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

Add the following resolution:

679 (XXXV) Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning

Subprogramme 11
Statistics

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

Add the following resolution:

678 (XXXV) Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Subprogramme 13
Subregional activities in the Caribbean

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

Add the following resolution:

680 (XXXV) Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee

For the following subprogrammes:

Subprogramme 3
Macroeconomic policies and growth

Subprogramme 4
Financing for development

Subprogramme 8
Sustainable development and human settlements

Subprogramme 9
Natural resources and infrastructure

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

Add the following resolution:

685 (XXXV) Activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in relation to follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals and implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Programme 19
Economic and social development in Western Asia

348. At its 16th meeting, on 11 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 19)). The Committee also had

before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework (E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1).

349. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

350. It was noted that changes had been made to the proposed strategic framework as compared with that for the biennium 2014-2015.

351. The view was expressed that the programme plan included issues of a political nature that were not suited to a regional commission, such as the reference in paragraph 19.6 to the political landscape of the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) having experienced dramatic transformations with the increasing demands by citizens for freedom and social justice, and the reference in paragraph 19.18 to the need for strong institutions to quell ongoing political tensions and conflicts in some countries, and to support democratic transitions in others. It was emphasized that such wording should be avoided when it was not part of the mandate. The view was expressed that the programme should have focused more on development and economic issues and that the wording in the biennial programme plan for 2014-2015 was correct and factual.

352. A delegation observed that there was no reference to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries, asking whether the conflict, in particular the refugees fleeing from the Syrian Arab Republic, was covered by any subprogramme. The question was raised whether the Commission had a mandate with regard to the conflict. Clarification was sought as to whether the Commission took into account economic sanctions and their impact on the social and economic development of States.

Conclusions and recommendations

353. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modification:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 19.6

Replace the first sentence with "Since late 2010, the political landscape of the ESCWA region has experienced dramatic transformations".

Programme 20
Human rights

354. At its 14th meeting, on 10 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 20, Human rights, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 20)).

355. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

356. Delegations expressed appreciation for the High Commissioner's presentation of the biennial programme plan for 2016-2017. Member States attached great importance to the programme and emphasized its guiding principles of universality, objectivity, impartiality, indivisibility and non-selectivity. The Committee expressed its desire to be able to approve the biennial programme plan collectively, in a manner that would send the right message to the international community on the importance of human rights as a core mandate of the United Nations.

357. Concerns were raised on procedural aspects of the programme. In particular, it was stressed that the programme, like all other programmes, must be formulated in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8), in particular regulation 4.8. In that regard, some delegations expressed the view that the agreed procedures of programme planning had not been followed, as the proposed biennial programme plan had not been officially reviewed by the Human Rights Council prior to its submission to the Committee at its fifty-fourth session. The view was expressed that, had the biennial programme plan in previous bienniums been reviewed by the Council prior to the sessions of the Committee, it would not have been put up for a vote in the Third Committee.

358. Other delegations, however, expressed the view that the Committee for Programme and Coordination was fully within its mandate to review the biennial programme plan without it having to be officially considered by the Council. In that regard, a number of delegations referred to the decision of the Office of Legal Affairs, contained in the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook 2007*, stating that the Human Rights Council was not a relevant organ, in the sense of regulation 4.8, to review the biennial programme plan of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). In reply, other delegations asked about the legal basis that enabled the Office of Legal Affairs to rule that the Council was not a relevant organ. One delegation did not agree with the view of the Office that it was not normally its role to address the Committee outside of the consideration of programme 6, Legal affairs, and stressed that the overall purpose of the Office was to provide advice to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations. The delegation emphasized that it was within the purview of Member States to call upon the Office to provide information and advice so as to enable Member States to take informed decisions.

359. Member States welcomed the informal meeting of 12 May between the High Commissioner and Member States. It was noted that the High Commissioner had called the meeting in accordance with President's statement (A/HRC/PRST/15/2), in which the Council invited the High Commissioner to present to it the proposed strategic framework prior to its submission to the Committee. However, it was also noted that the meeting should not alter the existing rules and lines of accountability with respect to the rules of procedure on programme planning for OHCHR.

360. Delegations noted that key mandates, such as those contained in General Assembly resolutions 55/2, on the Millennium Declaration, 57/300, on strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change, 60/1, on the 2005 World Summit Outcome, and 65/1, on keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, to which Member States attached great importance and which had been included in the biennial programme plan for 2014-2015, had been taken out of the overall orientation of the proposed biennial programme plan for 2016-2017.

361. It was emphasized that several mandates included in the biennial programme plan had expired, such as Human Rights Council resolution 22/1, on promoting reconciliation and accountability in Sri Lanka, which had expired in March 2014, and Human Rights Council resolution 24/24 on cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights, on which action had been deferred by the General Assembly.

362. Concern was expressed that several important phrases had been deleted from the biennial programme plan compared with that of the previous biennium, in particular the phrase "with the consent of the parties". Regarding paragraph 20.4, Member States questioned why the words "on all international recognized grounds, including race, sex, language or religion" had been omitted from the description of priorities. Other delegations, however, expressed support for the efforts of the Secretariat to streamline the current document.

363. Member States enquired as to the lessons learned from the 2012-2013 biennium, as noted in paragraph 20.7, and how they had been applied in developing the programme plan for the biennium 2014-2015.

364. Some Member States expressed the view that greater importance should be given to sustainable development. The concern was raised that no reference to the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development was made in the biennial programme plan.

365. Questions were raised by some Member States concerning the inclusion of gender mainstreaming in the biennial programme plan, noting that the programme was guided by non-selectivity and should give equal importance to all human rights. Some Member States emphasized that, under part A, Human rights mainstreaming, of subprogramme 1, Human rights mainstreaming, right to development, and research and analysis, OHCHR should focus on its comparative advantage and that gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system should be carried out by UN-Women. Other Member States fully supported the inclusion of gender mainstreaming in the work of OHCHR. However, it was noted that the term should be defined more clearly and used consistently, as the objective of part A of subprogramme 1 referred to "their gender dimension", while "the gender dimension" was used in other parts of the document.

366. Comments were also made on the inclusion of other themes in the biennial programme plan, such as peace and security, development and human rights, as noted in part A of subprogramme 1. It was noted that all aspects of human rights should be taken into account in the biennial programme plan. Delegations supported the efforts of OHCHR with respect to peacekeeping, peacebuilding and commissions of inquiry, as noted in paragraph 20.9 of the strategy. Regarding expected accomplishment (a) and the related indicator of achievement (a) under

part A of subprogramme 1, the view was expressed that the formulation had been more inclusive in the biennial programme plan for 2014-2015, and that it would be better to revert to that formulation.

367. The view was expressed that OHCHR seemed to give less importance to part B, Right to development, of subprogramme 1, as the approved language in the previous biennium had been removed from the strategic framework for 2016-2017. Concerns were raised as to whether the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement were effective in measuring the progress of the implementation of the right to development at the operational level. The concern was noted that there should be a balanced approach between parts A and B of subprogramme 1. Concerns were expressed about the focus of an entire section on the "right to development" when work was needed to reach a consensus definition of that term. Concerns were also expressed about the inclusion of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action as part of the focus of the OHCHR strategy.

368. It was mentioned that the role of OHCHR in implementing subprogramme 2, Supporting human rights treaty bodies, should focus on providing secretarial assistance to treaty bodies, as implied by the name of the subprogramme. The view was expressed that analytical work was a function of experts from the relevant treaty bodies and that the independence of the treaty bodies should be respected by OHCHR and the State parties.

369. Member States noted that expected accomplishment (b) and the related indicator of achievement (b) under subprogramme 2 did not correspond to General Assembly resolution 68/268, on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system. The opinion was voiced that the Secretariat had no right to influence the decision of States as to whether to follow the new methods, and that the efforts of the treaty bodies themselves to improve the methods of work should not go beyond their respective international treaties.

370. Clarification was sought as to the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement under subprogramme 3, Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities, including expected accomplishment (g), on providing timely and effective assistance to requesting States in the implementation of recommendations of human rights treaty bodies, the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms. A query was raised as to how the related indicator could be used to measure this accomplishment, given that all of the bodies referred to were advisory in nature and that the implementation of their recommendations was dependent on the will of the States concerned.

371. The view was expressed that subprogramme 3 should focus on advisory services and technical cooperation in the promotion and protection of human rights, which should be directed primarily at strengthening national capacities and raising awareness.

372. The concern was raised that OHCHR should also provide assistance to Member States concerning technical cooperation activities and not only in follow-up to the recommendations of mechanisms. It was emphasized that the implementation of assistance or services to States and relevant stakeholders at the national level in the field of the protection of human rights should be made possible only after consulting with and gaining the consent of the States concerned.

373. Views were expressed on the new branch created to support the universal periodic review, and the question was raised why the expected accomplishment had been moved from subprogramme 3 to subprogramme 4. Some Member States enquired how the impact of the new branch would be measured. Others pointed out that the expected accomplishment and related indicator of achievement concerning the universal periodic review and information concerning the review in the strategy did not appropriately reflect the request made by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/246 that the Secretary-General designate capacity to support the review.

Conclusions and recommendations

374. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative for programme 20, Human rights, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 in line with the text for the biennium 2014-2015 adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 67/542, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 1
Human rights mainstreaming, right to development, and research and analysis

A. Human rights mainstreaming

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with the following:

(b) Strengthened capacity of the United Nations system, including United Nations country teams, to further integrate all human rights into their respective programmes and activities and to assist countries, at their request, in building and strengthening national human rights promotion and protection capacities

Replace expected accomplishment (c) with the following:

(c) Wider knowledge within the entire United Nations system, including United Nations country teams, of relevant human rights issues while taking into account disability and gender-mainstreaming issues

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b), delete the words "common country".

Strategy

Paragraph 20.9

Replace the words "by States" with "by all States, including, upon States' request, through United Nations country teams".

Paragraph 20.9 (e)

Delete the words "including those without a United Nations country team presence".

Legislative mandates

The list of legislative mandates should follow those reflected in the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 20)).

Under "General Assembly resolutions", add the following:

68/237	**Proclamation of the International Decade for the People of African Descent (subprogramme 1)**
68/268	**Strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system (subprogramme 2)**

Subprogramme 4
Supporting the Human Rights Council, its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms

Under "Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions", delete the following:

24/24	**Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights**

For each mandate (country and thematic) expiring before the commencement of the 2016-2017 biennial programme plan, insert the following after the title: "(to be reconsidered in [year])".

Programme 21
International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees

375. At its 20th meeting, on 13 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 21, International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 21)). The Committee also had before it conference room paper (E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1).

376. The Deputy United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

377. Support was expressed for the programme and for the overall proposed strategic vision presented by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Delegations commended UNHCR for its efforts to provide international protection to populations of concern; noted that the proposed strategic vision reinforced nurturing and valuing existing mechanisms and creating new ones to face the current refugee megacrisis; expressed support for the Office's partnering with development organizations and for advocating for displaced populations; encouraged UNHCR to work with other organizations to further elaborate and implement various initiatives; were pleased to see the Office's strong fundraising efforts and a proper prioritization of resources; and expressed continued support for the Office's efforts to implement a naturalization programme for refugees, which was deemed to be an essential element to support displaced persons.

378. It was observed that the Office's proposed programme planning was appropriately resource-driven to achieve performance and results. Clarification was

sought concerning the issue of predictability, including the estimated flow of assistance to UNHCR.

379. Delegations noted with concern the situation of refugees and expressed their intention to continue to lend support to the international community in finding lasting solutions for the problem. Concerns were expressed regarding the impact and burden on the host countries and queries were raised regarding the measures UNHCR would take in that regard.

380. A comment was made concerning the need to avoid the politicization of the refugee programme.

381. As to the overall orientation, it was noted that some elements of the Office's work which were part of the current period's strategic framework had been eliminated for the period 2016-2017, specifically, two important elements: (a) the principle of consent; and (b) the obligation of United Nations officials to fully respect the laws and regulations of States where they carry out their work. It was emphasized that those were essential concepts which could not be eliminated.

382. Regarding legislative mandates, the comment was made that some resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions had not been listed.

383. With regard to the strategy of the programme, in relation to the issue of evaluation, clarification was sought as to the instruments used for self-evaluation in general. Furthermore, interest was noted regarding the proposed use of standards and indicators across the full spectrum of the work of UNHCR to identify protection and assistance gaps and to channel resources in order to ensure that acceptable standards were met in critical situations.

384. It was recalled that, during the Committee's previous session, the evaluation by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the UNHCR evaluation unit had been discussed. Delegations requested comments on the follow-up to the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, including the measures that had been taken to guarantee cooperation between UNHCR and that Office.

385. Delegations urged UNHCR to fill the post of High Commissioner for Protection, which had been vacant for a year, expeditiously.

386. The comment was made that a delegation would continue to lend its support to the work of UNHCR by hosting, in Brasilia, the conference to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees.

387. A comment was made that paragraph 21.5 of the overall orientation referred to an event that had taken place in 2011. It was queried why that event was part of the overall orientation.

388. It was also observed that in subparagraph 21.6 (h) of the overall orientation no reference had been made to the participation of UNHCR in the international conferences referred to or the ways in which UNHCR would be linked to them once a new United Nations development framework had been approved. Furthermore, it was requested that a list be provided of humanitarian and development organizations with which UNHCR had been working.

389. Regarding subparagraphs 21.6 (c) and (g) of the overall orientation, clarification was sought as to how the enhancement and reinforcement of host country capacities to provide asylum and protection would be achieved.

390. With regard to the objective of the programme, a comment was made that the concept of "permanent solutions" might be new and that attention should be given to the concept of "durable solutions", which was even part of the name of the programme.

391. A comment was made that proposed indicator of achievement (a) (i), regarding an increased number of ratifications/accessions to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions relating to statelessness, did not clarify how the increase would be measured.

392. It was observed that proposed expected accomplishment (b) did not convey the concept of fair and efficient treatment of populations when seeking protection, and that a different indicator of achievement might be needed.

393. It was observed that proposed indicator of achievement (c) (i) should better describe how the indicator would be measured. Furthermore, clarification was sought as to what process would be initiated under proposed indicator of achievement (c) (ii).

394. As to expected accomplishment (c) and indicator of achievement (c) (i), it was commented that although the scope of violence and abuse was limited to sexual violence, other types of violence also existed, for example, violence based on racial or religious grounds. It was further commented that, given the many types of violence, a generic reference to "victims of violence" would be more appropriate. It was also observed that addressing sexual and gender-based violence was of singular importance and that delegations were pleased to see a specific indicator of achievement related to that effort.

395. Regarding the proposed indicators of achievement (d) (i) and (iii), clarifications were requested as to what the concept of "acceptable standards" entailed and how such standards would be measured.

396. With regard to indicator of achievement (f) (iii), clarification was sought concerning how the local integration of refugees and resettled populations would be measured.

397. Regarding expected accomplishment (g), clarification was sought as to why the word "refugee" was not part of the language of the expected accomplishment and only "persons of concern" were being referenced.

Conclusions and recommendations

398. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 21, International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 21.2

In the fourth sentence, insert the words "and with the consent of the State concerned" after "at a specific request of the Secretary-General".

Paragraph 21.6 (f)

Insert the words "and empowerment of women" after "gender equality".

Paragraph 21.6 (g)

Insert the following sentence as the second part of the paragraph:

In this regard, due consideration should be given to the obligation of United Nations officials to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization.

Paragraph 21.11

In the second sentence, after the word "actors", add "especially from civil society".

Paragraph 21.14

After the first sentence, add a sentence reading: "UNHCR will work with Member States to raise awareness about the dramatic reality of refugees, which requires urgent and durable solutions".

Objective of the Organization

Replace the words "permanent solutions" with "durable solutions".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (g), insert the words "refugees and" before "persons of concern".

Indicators of achievement

Indicator of achievement (c) (i) should read "Increased number of UNHCR operations in which support to survivors of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, has improved".

Add new indicator of achievement (f) (iv), reading: "Voluntary repatriation of refugees and their sustainable reintegration in the country of origin".

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

Replace resolution 66/133, "Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees", with resolution 68/141, "Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

Replace resolution 66/134, "Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees", with resolution 68/142, "Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

Replace resolution 66/135, "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa", with resolution 68/143, "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa".

Add resolution 68/180, "Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons".

Programme 22
Palestine refugees

399. At its 12th meeting, on 9 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 22, Palestine refugees, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 22)).

400. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

401. Appreciation was expressed for the important work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in alleviating the plight of the Palestine refugees and for the Agency's staff, which carries out its work of high priority under difficult financial, political and economic conditions. It was noted that although it was small the programme was very important.

402. Tribute was paid to the staff members of the Agency who had lost their lives in the line of duty while carrying out the important work of UNRWA. Concern was expressed for the plight of the Palestine refugees. It was observed that the Palestinian issue should be settled and optimistic views were expressed that the situation of the Palestine refugees would be alleviated and eventually settled.

403. The importance of the Agency's medium-term strategy for the period 2016-2021 was highlighted and the view was expressed that the focus on education and health care should be maintained.

404. Concern was expressed over the increasing number of refugees and over the Agency's financial situation and its continued reliance on extrabudgetary resources.

405. Clarification was sought on the gender dimension of the Agency's work in the refugee camps and on the issue of the level of remuneration to the Agency's personnel, given that the Agency operated in several locations and remuneration packages for employees engaged by other employers varied from place to place.

406. Under subprogramme 1, A long and healthy life, clarification was sought on whether indicator of achievement (a) was a good indicator of the health status of Palestine refugees, since they could have psychological problems apart from physical ones.

407. Under subprogramme 2, Acquired knowledge and skills, concern was expressed about the educational situation of the children whose schools were closed owing to the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and clarification was sought on measures that the Agency was taking for access by those children to schools.

408. Under subprogramme 3, A decent standard of living, clarification was sought on indicator of achievement (b), in particular with regard to female unemployment.

409. Concern was expressed about a number of changes made in the proposed strategic framework for 2016-2017 compared to the strategic framework for 2014-2015 and questions were raised as to why those changes had been made. Concern was also expressed that important ideas and elements of the framework under various subprogrammes for the period 2014-2015 had been excluded in the proposed strategic framework for 2016-2017, which could have an impact on the implementation of the programme.

410. Support was expressed for the proposed strategic framework and the presentation.

411. While support was expressed for the framework for subprogrammes 1, 2 and 3, and the overall objective of subprogramme 4, Human rights enjoyed to the fullest, a question was raised about better defining expected accomplishment (b) under subprogramme 4.

Conclusions and recommendations

412. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 22, Palestine refugees, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 22.1

At the end of the paragraph, add "It stands ready to continue to do so during the biennium 2016-2017 in accordance with the triennial mandate that it receives from the Assembly".

Paragraph 22.2

At the end of the paragraph, add the following:

In its resolution 3331 B (XXIX), the Assembly decided that, with effect from 1 January 1975, the expenses for salaries of international staff in the service of UNRWA which would otherwise be a charge on voluntary contributions should be financed by the regular budget of the United Nations for the duration of the Agency's mandate.

Paragraph 22.3

At the end of the first sentence, add "consistent with internationally agreed goals and standards".

Paragraph 22.5

Replace the first sentence with the following:

The Agency also provides emergency assistance to more than 1.3 million Palestine refugees in acute distress within its areas of operations, as a result of armed conflict in the occupied Palestinian territory and in neighbouring countries, humanitarian access restrictions and prolonged economic hardship in the occupied Palestinian territory and Lebanon.

Paragraph 22.6

At the end of the first sentence, add "and to further developing its protection, programming, operation and advocacy responses".

Subprogramme 1
A long and healthy life

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with "(a) Increased access to comprehensive primary health-care services, including medication".

Strategy

Paragraph 22.8

Replace subparagraph (b) with the following:

(b) Maintaining the quality and efficiency of primary health-care services to meet international standards in accordance with guidelines of the World Health Organization and the post-2015 development framework (after its adoption by the General Assembly), with an emphasis on preventing chronic diseases to meet the evolving needs of refugees.

Paragraph 22.8

At the end of subparagraph (e), add the following:

This will be achieved through prevention and maintenance, namely, immunization against vaccine-preventable diseases, disease surveillance, outbreak investigation and tuberculosis control, and the operation and maintenance of water and sanitation networks, either directly or in collaboration with municipal partners.

Subprogramme 2
Acquired knowledge and skills

Strategy

Paragraph 22.9

Replace subparagraph (d) with "Fostering working relationships with host ministries of education and harnessing the potential of a range of diverse partners to enhance service delivery".

Subprogramme 3
A decent standard of living

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add a new expected accomplishment (d), reading:

(d) Inclusive financial services and access to credit and savings facilities are increased

Indicators of achievement

Add new indicators of achievement (d) (i) and (ii), reading:

(i) Increase in the value of loans disbursed

(ii) Increase in the number of loans disbursed

Programme 23
Humanitarian assistance

413. At its 16th meeting, on 11 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 23, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 23)).

414. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

415. Views were expressed in support and appreciation of the programme, and the importance of the work of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs was stressed.

416. The view was expressed that all the activities of the Office should be carried out within the framework of the legislative mandates, in particular General Assembly resolution 46/182.

417. Concerns were expressed about the methodological aspects of the proposed strategic framework. In particular, it was stressed that the proposed framework must follow the principle of results-based management and that indicators of achievement should focus more on the impact and outcome of the Office's work and should be relevant and measurable.

418. The view was expressed that the proposed framework did not take into account the growing complexity of the situation of refugees and that consideration needed to be given to creating a separate subprogramme for the reinforcement of the capacity of States that receive refugees to deal with the humanitarian issues of those refugees.

419. Clarification was also sought on training programmes on humanitarian assistance.

420. Appreciation was expressed for gender mainstreaming.

421. It was noted that the proposed strategic framework had been changed and that ideas contained in the strategic framework for 2014-2015 had been excluded from the proposed strategic framework for 2016-2017. The view was expressed that changes to the proposed strategic framework should be based on legislative mandates and that simplification should not be done to the detriment of the substance.

422. Concerning subprogramme 1, Policy and analysis, the view was expressed that the removal of the words "strategic and operational" in the objective should not affect the overall objective of the subprogramme. Clarification was sought on the "dialogue on change" under expected accomplishment (a). The view was expressed that expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b) were operational

rather than related to policy and analysis. Clarification was sought as to why changes were made to expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b), especially in view of the fact that the question of protection of civilians was still being debated. Doubts were expressed about expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b). It was noted that references to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the International Organization for Migration had been omitted. It was also observed that the indicator of achievement on the number of resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators trained had been removed. Clarification was sought with regard to the note by the Secretary-General of 2006 on guidance on integrated missions referred to in paragraph 23.6.

423. On subprogramme 2, Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response, clarification was sought on the changes made to expected accomplishment (a) and indicator of achievement (a) (i) and how the expected accomplishment and the indicator related to the objective of the subprogramme. It was indicated that the reason for the phrase "as appropriate" included at the end of paragraph 23.9 was not clear.

424. Regarding subprogramme 3, Natural disaster reduction, the view was expressed that subprogramme 3 should be renamed "Natural disaster risk reduction".

425. It was noted that the rationale for the reformulation of the objective was not clear. Clarification was sought as to why it was changed, why the words "through partnerships" were included and what exactly was meant by "partnerships". Furthermore, it was noted that there seemed to be a disconnect between the expected accomplishments and the indicators of achievement with regard to the objective. Clarification was also sought on the respective roles of the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in disaster risk reduction.

426. On subprogramme 4, Emergency support services, with regard to indicator of achievement (a), clarification was sought about the difference between provision and delivery of international assistance.

427. Concerning subprogramme 5, Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy, the view was expressed that indicators (a) (ii) and (iii) should have been better formulated. The view was also expressed that, while the use of social media was growing, communication by means of radio was still important, especially for people living in poverty and in remote places, and that it should not be overshadowed by new technologies.

Conclusions and recommendations

428. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 23, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 23.1

In the first sentence, replace the word "development" with "sustainable development".

In the second sentence, after "General Assembly resolution 46/182", add "in which the Assembly set out the guiding principles of humanitarian response and".

Subprogramme 1
Policy and analysis

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To improve the strategic and operational coherence of humanitarian response

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Under expected accomplishment (a), delete the words "on change".

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with the following:

(b) Improved operational planning, monitoring and accountability of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs during disasters and emergency situations, including the transitional phase from relief to sustainable development

Add expected accomplishment (c), reading:

(c) Improved capacity of United Nations coordinators for the protection of civilians

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with "Percentage of inter-agency evaluation recommendations implemented by humanitarian agencies".

Add indicator of achievement (c), reading:

(c) Number of resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators trained in the application of guidelines for the protection of civilians

Subprogramme 2
Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add expected accomplishment (d), reading:

(d) Improved response to humanitarian emergencies by all United Nations operational agencies

Indicators of achievement

Add indicator of achievement (d), reading:

(d) Percentage of new or escalating emergencies in which coordination staff is deployed within seven days

Strategy

Paragraph 23.9

In the last sentence, delete the words "as appropriate".

Subprogramme 3
Natural disaster reduction

Rename the subprogramme "Natural disaster risk reduction".

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To prevent and reduce the risk of and vulnerability to natural hazards and the impact of disasters

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Under expected accomplishment (a), replace the words "Increased capacity and commitment" with "Increased national capacity and commitment".

Indicators of achievement

Under indicator of achievement (a) (i), add at the end "including those that confront the root causes of social vulnerability".

Strategy

Paragraph 23.17

After the words "new risk", add "and addressing social vulnerabilities".

Paragraph 23.18

In the first sentence, after the words "networks of", insert "national platforms".

Subprogramme 5
Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicators of achievement (a) (ii) and (iii) with the following:

(ii) Increased public engagement in humanitarian issues through social and broadcast media

Strategy

Paragraph 23.26

In the second sentence, replace the phrase "coverage and reach" with "including broadcast coverage and reach".

Programme 24
Public information

429. At its 20th meeting, on 13 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 24, Public information, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 24) and Corr.1).

430. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

431. Appreciation was expressed for the work of the Department and the critical role it played in delivering the message of the United Nations globally.

432. Delegations highlighted the essential role of the United Nations information centres in outreach activities, including in the dissemination of information on United Nations activities. The question was raised how the Organization viewed the future role of the centres and how the Department would continue to support them.

433. The work of the Department in underscoring the Secretary-General's emphasis on delivering results, on accountability and on gender equality and the empowerment of women, while addressing global challenges for the common good and fully complying with the mandates given by Member States, was welcomed.

434. Delegations stressed the importance of multilingualism and parity in respect of the six official languages of the United Nations. It was highlighted that the quality of the interpretation and translation services was of utmost importance to the intergovernmental process, and in that regard a question was raised regarding the electronic translation of documents and how the Organization could ensure the quality of documents produced in that way. Concerns were raised regarding the fact that some public information materials and website content were produced only in English, or English and French, and clarification was sought as to why they were not available in the six official languages and whether the limitation was a result of budgetary constraints. The view was expressed that the current efforts of the Department to observe multilingualism were insufficient, and queries were raised regarding additional measures taken by the Department to ensure language parity. Queries were also raised as to whether a cost-benefit analysis had been performed in respect of information products in non-official languages to ensure efficiency.

435. Clarification was sought regarding the reduced implementation rate in respect of the performance measures for the biennium 2012-2013, as reflected in the relevant programme performance report (A/69/144). Concerns were raised about the elimination of publications resulting from paper-smart initiatives, and clarification was sought as to whether a survey had been conducted with end users prior to discontinuation of the publications to determine its impact.

436. Advances achieved in the use of modern technology and the Department's adaptation to it were welcomed, but the necessity of retaining traditional media, such as radio and printed products, was stressed. It was recalled that some countries had difficulties in accessing electronic information products and it was emphasized that user surveys as well as cost-benefit analyses should be conducted prior to the discontinuation of traditional forms of media. The view was also expressed that, since paper-smart meetings had been approved by the General Assembly only on a pilot basis, the Department should be more proactive in working with target audiences to determine whether they would like to receive documents in hard copy or electronically.

437. Clarification was sought regarding the Department's plan to explore the consolidation of certain units according to language.

438. The importance of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library as the custodian of United Nations historical documents was emphasized, and clarification was sought in respect of the progress made on the digitization of documents, including where those documents could be accessed.

439. The importance of the measurability of indicators was stressed, and the view was expressed that the indicators of achievement should be quantified to allow measurability and comparability against identified benchmarks.

Conclusions and recommendations

440. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 24, Public information, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 24.1

Replace the second sentence with the following:

In line with this mission, the Department creates and implements communications strategies; engages local audiences worldwide through its network of United Nations information centres; produces, promotes and delivers news and media products and services in all six official languages; and initiates and expands partnerships, outreach and knowledge-sharing.

Paragraph 24.2

At the end of the paragraph, add "and 67/292".

New paragraph 24.5

After paragraph 24.4, insert a new paragraph 24.5, reading:

The Department emphasizes the importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations, with a view to ensuring their full and equitable treatment in the activities of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat.

Renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

Paragraph 24.6 (formerly 24.5)

Replace the first sentence with the following:

To accomplish its mission, the Department takes the following core approaches in its work with an overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage: strategic working relationships with the substantive departments and offices of the Secretariat and organizations of the United Nations system; enhanced use of the latest information and communications technologies in both traditional and new media in order to deliver information directly and instantaneously worldwide; and the promotion of multilingualism and the parity of all six official United Nations languages in the preparation of news and communications products.

Subprogramme 1
Strategic communications services

Indicators of achievement

At the end of indicator of achievement (b), add the words "overall and per official language".

At the end of indicator of achievement (c) (ii), add the words "overall and per official language".

Strategy

Paragraph 24.8 (formerly 24.7)

Replace the third sentence with the following:

Specially designated information centres will assist other centres in their respective regions in sharing expertise and resources and in developing messages and communications campaigns tailored to regional or subregional needs, taking into account the linguistic dimension of target audiences.

Paragraph 24.9 (formerly 24.8)

Replace the first sentence with the following:

In order to enhance public understanding of the objectives and activities of the Organization, information products will be created in all six official languages and in local languages.

Subprogramme 2
News services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (a), add the words "that are produced in all six official languages".

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), add the words "in all six official languages".

Indicators of achievement

At the end of indicator of achievement (a) (i), add the words "overall and per official language".

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (ii) with the following:

(ii) Increased partnerships with radio and television broadcasters and rebroadcasters, by language and by region (official and non-official)

At the end of indicator of achievement (b), add the words "in all six official languages".

Strategy

Paragraph 24.12 (formerly 24.11)

Replace the first sentence with the following:

The objective will be accomplished through the timely production and delivery of accurate, balanced and, where feasible, customized news and information materials (text, video, audio and photo) and services to the media and other consumers, including through the use of the newest web-based and mobile distribution platforms, with an overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage.

Replace the second sentence with the following:

Multilingualism will remain a strong focus, with increased production on an equitable basis, through partnerships with global broadcasters, of original news products in all official and non-official languages, by the reordering of priorities, as necessary.

Paragraph 24.13 (formerly 24.12)

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "that are produced in all six official languages".

Paragraph 24.14 (formerly 24.13)

Replace the paragraph with the following:

As efficiencies gained through the acquisition of the Media Assets Management System and other tools are examined under the subprogramme, some reorganization of job descriptions and responsibilities will occur. To ensure the continued quality and quantity of programmes and to strengthen multilingualism, the Department will explore the consolidation of certain units according to language, with a view to covering all six official languages on an equitable basis.

Subprogramme 3
Outreach and knowledge services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

(a) Broader reach of United Nations multilingual information through various media and services and through expanded partnerships with other entities

Indicators of achievement

At the end of indicator of achievement (a) (iii), add the words "overall and per official language".

At the end of indicator of achievement (a) (iv), add the words "in all six official languages".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (ii) with the following:

(ii) Increased internal communications through the use of iSeek and deleGATE, with a view to benefiting Member States through access to those new tools, as requested in General Assembly resolutions

Strategy

Paragraph 24.17 (formerly 24.16)

Replace the first sentence with the following:

To reach a broader segment of the global public, the Division will continue to develop new multilingual constituencies, including institutions of higher education and research, through the United Nations Academic Impact initiative.

Legislative mandates

After 67/155, insert "67/292 Multilingualism".

Programme 25
Management and support services

441. At its 8th and 13th meetings, on 5 and 9 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 25, Management and support services, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 25)). The Committee also had before it a conference room paper on the subject (E/AC.51/2014/CRP.2).

442. The Under-Secretary-General for Management introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

443. Delegations expressed general support for the overall objectives of the programme and acknowledged the important role that it played in providing critical support and services in the delivery of the programme of work of the Organization.

Appreciation was expressed for the effective and efficient functioning of financial, human resources, support and information and communications technology services in the Secretariat and offices away from Headquarters.

444. It was observed that General Assembly resolution 66/257 on progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat had not been included in the overall legislative mandates.

445. Clarification was sought regarding the reference to the Security Council in paragraph 25.2. Clarification was also sought regarding the revision to paragraph 25.4, in particular in relation to self-evaluation practices as well as timely performance reporting to Member States to ensure that the Organization became fully results-oriented.

446. Regarding the enterprise resource planning project, known as Umoja, concern was expressed with regard to the revised timeline for the implementation of the project, the containment of the overall costs and the benefits to be realized. The view was also expressed that the indicators of achievement under that component could be more results-oriented.

447. Views were expressed that the inclusion of reference to a new service delivery model in paragraph 25.7 was premature, given that the proposal had yet to be submitted to the General Assembly.

448. A question was raised concerning the removal of the reference to the administration of justice in paragraph 25.11. Concern was expressed by some delegations about the absence of reference to Library services in paragraph 25.14.

449. With regard to subprogramme 1, Management services, administration of justice and services to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly and to the Committee for Programme and Coordination, questions were raised concerning the details of how the Department of Management monitored policies, procedures and internal control in the Organization. Clarification was sought as to the number of days required for the processing of cases before the Headquarters Committee on Contracts, and the pilot process referred to in paragraph 25.18.

450. With regard to subprogramme 2, Programme planning, budget and accounts, the view was expressed that the expected accomplishments under component 1 should include reference to the budget of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals. Appreciation was expressed for the inclusion of the provision of informal briefings under paragraph 25.22 (d), given that such briefings would help with transparency and promote dialogue. Clarification was sought as to the change in indicator of achievement (a) (ii) under component 3. Clarification was also sought regarding the efforts made by the Department to mitigate the late submission of budgetary reports and statements of programme budget implications to the Fifth Committee.

451. With regard to subprogramme 3, Human resources management, clarification was sought regarding the priorities in the area of human resources management. The view was expressed that the indicators of achievement needed further refinement, including a mechanism to track numbers of instances of recognition for good performance and sanctions for underperformance, and should be specific and measureable. The view was also expressed that, while equitable geographical distribution and gender balance were important to the Organization in the

recruitment of staff, emphasis should be placed on the individual candidate's qualifications, as reiterated by the General Assembly in its resolutions 63/250 and 65/247. Concern was expressed regarding the continued maintenance of the expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement relating to geographical distribution and gender balance in view of the increasing reliance on extrabudgetary funding for posts. Delegations took note of the modifications reflected in E/AC.51/2014/CRP.2.

452. With regard to subprogramme 4, Support services, a question was raised as to the inclusion in the strategy of reference to flexible workplace arrangements, given that such arrangements had not been approved by the General Assembly. Furthermore, a question was raised whether there were clear guidelines for the use of meeting rooms by Member States and the basis for charging those States. Clarification was sought with regard to the meaning of the phrase "climate neutrality", contained in paragraph 25.46 (i). The view was expressed that basic principles for the awarding of procurement contracts should be in line with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

453. The Committee noted the importance of ensuring gender balance and geographical representation in the Secretariat, in particular at senior levels, while complying with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions governing recruitment in the Organization.

Conclusions and recommendations

454. **The Committee stressed that it was important for the Organization to continue to improve upon space utilization by aligning space requirements with operational and functional requirements.**

455. **The Committee noted from the overall orientation of programme 25 the intention of the Secretary-General to implement key management reform measures, recalled General Assembly resolutions 66/257 and 68/264 on the accountability system in the Secretariat and noted with appreciation the efforts of the Department of Management to strengthen institutional and senior managerial accountability in order to ensure a more effective and results-oriented Organization.**

456. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 25, Management and support services, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications and comments by the Committee:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 25.2

Replace the paragraph with the following:

The programme derives its mandates from relevant Articles of the Charter of the United Nations, specifically Articles 8, 17, 97, 100 and 101, as well as the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the Staff Regulations and Rules, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the

Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 42/211 and its successive annual resolutions on the review of efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, as well as resolutions 52/12 A and B, 57/300, 58/269, 60/1, 60/260, 60/283, 63/262, 66/246, 66/257, 67/253 and 68/264.

Paragraph 25.7

Replace the last sentence with the following:

The integration and consolidation of certain transactional administrative processes in shared services will be included in the proposal for a new service delivery model to be presented by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval.

Paragraph 25.11

After the second sentence, insert the following:

The Department, within its mandate and in close cooperation with other relevant structures of the Secretariat, will continue to strengthen the system of administration of justice, as decided by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/261, and subsequent relevant resolutions that address, among other things, issues related to recourse to formal and informal procedures for the efficient, effective and fair implementation of the system.

Paragraph 25.14

Delete the third sentence.

Paragraph 25.17

Replace the third sentence with the following:

In support of the Secretary-General's commitment to strengthening accountability and transparency, and in full compliance with General Assembly resolutions 66/257, section I, 67/253 and 68/264, the Office will continue to enhaace the Secretariat's accountability framework.

A. Headquarters

Subprogramme 1
Management services, administration of justice and services to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly and to the Committee for Programme and Coordination

Component 1
Management services

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (ii), after the word "increased", insert "timely".

Add a new indicator of achievement (b) (iii), reading:

(iii) Increased number of implemented recommendations of oversight bodies related to strengthening accountability in the Organization

Component 2
Enterprise resource planning project

The Committee stressed the importance of continuing to support the implementation of Umoja and the harmonization of business processes across the United Nations.

The Committee also stressed the importance of ensuring robust governance, oversight and accountability with regard to the Umoja project and of adhering to established timetables for project implementation.

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (b) as (b) (i), and add a new indicator of achievement (b) (ii), reading:

(ii) Decreased amount of time required to provide help to support requests

Subprogramme 2
Programme planning, budget and accounts

Component 1
Programme planning and budgeting

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishments (a) and (b), add "and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals".

Add a new expected accomplishment (c), reading:

(c) Increased transparency and dialogue with Member States in the process of presentation of the biennial programme plan, the programme budget, and the budgets of the international criminal tribunals and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and the relevant General Assembly resolutions

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator of achievement (c), reading:

(c) Responses, including through evaluation surveys, on transparency and on the dialogue undertaken by the Secretariat in the preparation of the biennial programme plan, the programme

budget, and the budgets of the international criminal tribunals and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

Strategy

Paragraph 25.22

At the end of subparagraph (a), add "and providing guidance to departments and offices in that regard".

Replace subparagraph (c) with the following:

(c) Preparing and presenting the following to the legislative bodies: the Secretary-General's budget outline; the biennial programme budgets, including the budgets of special political missions and the budgets of the international criminal tribunals and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals; the budget performance reports; and other reports on budgetary matters, including timely statements of the programme budget implications of new activities, as well as revised or supplementary programme budget proposals.

Add a new subparagraph (f), reading:

(f) Enhancing control reporting systems and procedures relating to the implementation of programme budgets and extrabudgetary funds to ensure the economical and proper use of resources

Component 3
Accounting, contributions and financial reporting

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), replace "30 days" with the words "15 days".

In indicator of achievement (c), replace "Number of" with "Increased number of".

Subprogramme 3
Human resources management

Component 2
Strategic planning and staffing

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (i) with the following:

(i) Increased percentage of candidates selected from unrepresented and underrepresented Member States against posts subject to the system of geographical ranges

Replace indicator of achievement (d) with the following:

(d) Number of voluntary and managed movements, including the number of movements between hardship duty stations and non-hardship duty stations.

Component 3
Learning, development and human resources services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Insert a new expected accomplishment (d), reading "(d) Enhanced credibility of performance management".

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator of achievement (a) (iii), as reading "(iii) Increased percentage of level of satisfaction of trainees attending courses with the quality and relevance of such courses".

Add a new indicator of achievement (d), reading "(d) Timely completion of performance appraisal by managers".

Component 5
Human resources information systems

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add a new expected accomplishment (b), reading "(b) Ensure that human resources information technology is more user-friendly".

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator of achievement (b), reading "(b) Increased satisfaction rate expressed by the users of the system".

Subprogramme 4
Support services

Component 1
Facilities and commercial services

The Committee emphasized the need for the Office of Central Support Services to continue to provide policy guidance and oversight with regard to project governance and management.

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (d) as (d) (i) and add a new indicator (d) (ii), reading:

> **(ii) Increased percentage of air tickets purchased by the Organization at least two weeks before the commencement of the travel**

Strategy

Paragraph 25.46

Replace subparagraph (c) with the following:

(c) Improving space utilization through long-term planning of office accommodation that promotes productivity and the well-being of the occupants.

Replace subparagraph (f) with the following:

(f) Maintaining efficient and cost-effective travel services, in accordance with section VI of General Assembly resolution 67/254 A, and transportation services, through best practices, as well as close cooperation and benchmarking with other organizations of the United Nations system.

In subparagraph (i), replace "climate neutrality" with "energy efficiencies".

Component 3
Business continuity

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator of achievement (a) (iii), reading "(iii) Maintenance of the number of yearly training programmes for crisis decision makers".

B. United Nations Office at Geneva

Subprogramme 4
Support services (Geneva)

1. Objective of the Organization

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (c) with "(c) Increased percentage of air tickets purchased by the Organization at least two weeks before the commencement of the travel".

C. United Nations Office at Vienna

Subprogramme 4
Support services (Vienna)

1. Objective of the Organization

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with "(b) Increased percentage of air tickets purchased by the Organization at least two weeks before the commencement of the travel".

D. United Nations Office at Nairobi

Subprogramme 4
Support services (Nairobi)

I. Objective of the Organization

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (c) with "(c) Increased percentage of air tickets purchased by the Organization at least two weeks before the commencement of the travel".

Programme 26
Internal oversight

457. At its 19th meeting, on 12 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 26, Internal oversight, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 26)).

458. The Assistant Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

459. Appreciation was expressed for the functions that the Office of Internal Oversight Services carried out and the role it played in increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Organization. It was emphasized that coordination with other oversight bodies was required to avoid overlap and duplication of effort.

460. It was noted with concern that some of the paragraphs under overall orientation did not reflect the already negotiated and agreed language for the programme contained in the approved biennial programme plan for 2014-2015. In respect of paragraph 26.4, clarification was sought on the specific mandates and resolutions supporting the actions contained therein.

461. With regard to subprogramme 1, Internal audit, the view was expressed that the overall scope of expected accomplishment (a) was too broad and difficult to carry out. It was also pointed out that the indicators of achievement were subjective and not easy to measure. The view was also expressed that the drawbacks of the delays in the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, enterprise risk management, the enterprise resource planning system and other major reform projects should be highlighted further.

462. With regard to subprogramme 2, Inspection and evaluation, clarification was sought concerning who had the role of determining the relevance of thematic inspections and evaluations in the implementation of the programmes. Emphasis was also placed on the need to focus on the effectiveness of inspection and evaluation.

463. Concern was expressed at the initiative taken by the Office to conduct evaluations relating to matters and concepts that were still under consideration by the General Assembly. In particular, reference was made to the Office's evaluation of the implementation and results of protection of civilians mandates in United

Nations peacekeeping operations (A/68/787). It was emphasized that there was no agreement in the Assembly regarding the concept of responsibility to protect.

464. In performing its evaluation functions, the Office should avoid interfering in the intergovernmental negotiations by conducting evaluations that could prejudge the outcome of such negotiations.

465. With regard to subprogramme 3, Investigations, concern was expressed regarding the measurability of indicator of achievement (b) (iii). It was noted that specific measures should be taken to reduce the number of incomplete investigations to prevent further violations and to increase accountability of staff, especially in peacekeeping missions. Views were also expressed that the results of investigations on any financial or administrative violations should be made available on the website of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

Conclusions and recommendations

466. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 26, Internal oversight, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 26.1

Replace the first sentence with the following:

The overall purpose of the programme is to enhance transparency and accountability and contribute to a high level of efficiency, effectiveness and goal fulfilment in the Organization.

Paragraph 26.2

Replace the last sentence with the following:

The Office coordinates closely with the United Nations Board of Auditors, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Independent Audit Advisory Committee in order to ensure effective and efficient oversight in the Organization.

Paragraph 26.4

Replace the last sentence with the following:

This will be accomplished through the issuance of timely, high-quality reports on inspections, evaluations, internal audits and investigations, in full accordance with the mandates of the Office as approved by the General Assembly and with applicable international standards.

Paragraph 26.5

Replace the first sentence with the following:

The Office assists the Organization in achieving better results by determining the factors affecting the efficient and effective

implementation of programmes in accordance with, inter alia, internationally agreed sustainable development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Development Goals and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992.

Subprogramme 1
Internal audit

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (i) with the following:

(i) Increased acknowledgement and use of the Internal Audit Division's reports, including thematic reports, in the decision-making of Member States, including on internal controls, processes and risk management

In indicators of achievement (a) (ii), (b) (i) and (b) (ii), replace the word "Maintained" with "Increased".

Subprogramme 2
Inspection and evaluation

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following:

To strengthen accountability, learning, efficiency, effectiveness and impact in the implementation of programmes and the relevance of administrative procedures and to assess whether the activities correspond to the mandates

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace the expected accomplishment with the following:

Increased contribution to the decision-making processes of Member States and increased ability of the Secretariat to take appropriate actions based on inspections and evaluations by the Office of Internal Oversight Services that assess the efficiency and effectiveness of programmes, thematic issues and self-evaluation capacities, the relevance of administrative procedures and whether the activities correspond to the mandates

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (i) with the following:

(i) Increased percentage of programmes and thematic inspections and evaluations that have been used by Member States to inform decision-making on efficiency and effectiveness in the implementation of programmes and the relevance of administrative procedures and whether the activities correspond to the mandates

Subprogramme 3
Investigations

Strategy

Paragraph 26.9

Add the following as the second sentence: "The strategy includes follow-up with troop- and police-contributing countries and military command".

Paragraph 26.10

Replace the last sentence with "The Division is considering ways to influence other parts of the system to increase the impact and value of investigations".

Programme 27
Jointly financed activities

467. At its 8th and 11th meetings, on 5 and 6 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 27, Jointly financed activities, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 27)).

468. The representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

469. Support was expressed for the overall orientation of the programme and its constituent components. The importance of the programme's role with regard to the coordination and coherence of activities within the United Nations system was stressed.

470. Clarification was sought with regard to the interaction and coordination between the various bodies responsible for each component of the programme.

471. Regarding component A, the International Civil Service Commission, some delegations drew attention to the shift in emphasis under the strategy from the maintenance of coherent and effective human resources management to the outcome of the comprehensive review of the common system compensation package.

472. Questions were raised regarding the status of the comprehensive review and whether the implementation of the outcome of the review had been reflected in the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of the secretariat of the Commission.

473. Clarification was sought on the potential impact of the mobility framework approved by the General Assembly on the work of the Commission and the references to the development of innovative approaches in the field of human resources management.

474. Clarification was sought on the indicator of achievement relating to an improved methodology for cost-of-living measurements and whether that related to improvements in the data or in the methodology for collecting the data.

475. Regarding component B, the Joint Inspection Unit, questions were raised on the deletion of the reference to coordination activities and the interaction of the Unit with other oversight bodies under the strategy.

476. The view was expressed that indicator of achievement (b) could be refined to include the number of participating organizations that had commented on and responded to the reports and recommendations of the Unit. It was observed that indicators of achievement could strive for specific increases, using the previous period as a benchmark.

477. Clarification was sought regarding the level of coordination with the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) and the role of CEB with regard to system-wide evaluations.

478. Questions were raised on the new approach in relation to the programme of work vis-à-vis the past biennium. The lack of reports by the Unit submitted for consideration by the Committee during its deliberations was noted by some delegations.

479. Some delegations emphasized the importance of the web-based follow-up system. Clarification was sought on the tool, in particular with regard to the acceptance and implementation rates of Unit recommendations by participating organizations. In the light of the challenges surrounding awareness of Unit reports and recommendations, it was suggested that outreach campaigns could be undertaken.

480. Regarding component C, CEB, questions were raised regarding the identification of high-priority global challenges in the overall orientation, which might not entirely reflect the view of Member States. Concern was raised regarding the inclusion of work on supporting the mainstreaming of youth perspectives in the policies and programmes of the system. In particular, clarification was sought regarding the specific mandates requesting such mainstreaming.

481. The view was expressed that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement should be placed in the context of the mandates of intergovernmental bodies to reflect the fact that the work of CEB was guided by those mandates.

482. The importance of the coordinating role of CEB was emphasized. The view was expressed that greater cooperation between CEB and other oversight bodies could be achieved. In particular, clarification was sought on the extent to which the Joint Inspection Unit was able to participate in thematic meetings and discussions of CEB. Concern was expressed regarding the apparent brevity with which Unit reports were reviewed by United Nations system organizations and clarification sought as to a mechanism that would ensure detailed consideration of those reports.

Conclusions and recommendations

483. **The Committee noted the importance of the work of the International Civil Service Commission, including the review of common system staff compensation.**

484. **The Committee took note with appreciation of the intention of the Joint Inspection Unit to develop a more strategic approach to the selection of issues for its programme of work.**

485. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 27, Jointly financed activities, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

Overall orientation

Paragraph 27.13

At the end of the second sentence, add the words "on the basis of the decisions adopted by Member States".

Paragraph 27.14

In the third sentence, after the words "rule of law", insert "at the national and international levels".

Paragraph 27.16

In the first sentence, after the words "effective support", add "in full compliance with the decision adopted by Member States".

Indicators of achievement

At the end of indicator of achievement (a) (i), insert "and the decisions of intergovernmental bodies".

Programme 28
Safety and security

486. At its 15th meeting, on 10 June 2014, the Committee considered programme 28, Safety and security, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 28)).

487. The Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

488. The importance of the programme in ensuring the safety of United Nations personnel was emphasized, as it facilitated the uninhibited functioning of the Organization, including the intergovernmental process.

489. Regarding subprogramme 1, Security and safety coordination, questions were raised on the modification of expected accomplishment (b), namely the systematic and coordinated delivery of protective services for senior United Nations officials. Clarification was sought regarding the provision of protective services for senior government officials. It was noted that indicator of achievement (b) had been changed from increasing the number of personal protection operations to increasing the instances of travel reviewed. The view was expressed that the previous indicator was more suitable for measuring progress towards the expected accomplishment. Clarification was sought regarding the provision of training and the availability of

specialized training for high-risk duty stations as well as the availability of training for family members.

490. A question was raised how the Department of Safety and Security ensured the coordinated delivery of personal protection operations in the United Nations. Clarification was sought regarding the evaluation of the indicators of achievement related to updated security risk assessments and the implementation of minimum operating security standards and minimum operating residential security standards, in particular with regard to the process of endorsement by the Division of Regional Operations.

491. With regard to the strategy for implementing component 1, Regional field operation coordination, of subprogramme 2, Regional field coordination and support, questions were raised about the role of host countries in the coordination of security activities and their participation in strengthening security at United Nations duty stations.

492. With regard to component 2, Field support, of subprogramme 2, delegations noted the change in the focus of expected accomplishment (d) and clarification was sought regarding the Department's role in the area of aviation risk management in view of the work of the Department of Field Support in the same area.

Conclusions and recommendations

493. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 28, Safety and security, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017.**

C. Evaluation

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its fifty-first session on the programme evaluation of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

494. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 June 2014, the Committee considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its fifty-first session on the programme evaluation of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/AC.51/2014/2).

495. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report and representatives of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

496. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the report, noting that it contained useful and high-quality information, and acknowledged that all four recommendations had been implemented. A few delegations noted that while recommendations 1 and 2 had certain depth, that was not the case for recommendations 3 and 4. It was observed that no comment had been made regarding the impact of implementing the recommendations other than a reduction in publications.

497. With regard to recommendation 2, support was expressed for the efforts of the Department to successfully develop an implementation matrix to organize system-wide efforts to implement conference outcomes; the view was expressed that that initiative could be used as a best practice.

498. Concern was expressed that the Department should not establish programme priorities related to the post-2015 development agenda and follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development until Member States had taken decisions at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly. The point was also made that no priorities had been given to subprogrammes by Member States. A further question was raised regarding how the Secretary-General's bulletin on the Publications Board reflected General Assembly decisions on publications.

499. The view was also expressed by several delegations that the Department's overall reduction in its report titles and printed copies should not adversely affect Member States' access to information or access to reports in those countries with poor Internet access. Further, views were expressed that the paper-smart initiative had been approved only as a pilot and should not be seen as a means to increase the use of technology; however, there should be assurance that the target audience was being reached. The view was also expressed that the paper-smart concept was a good one since it helped to reduce, inter alia, the carbon footprint. One delegation questioned whether the Department's publications were reaching the youth audience in particular.

500. Some points were also raised regarding the recommendations made to the Department, including whether they were sufficiently substantive and to what extent the impact of their implementation could be measured. Further, attention was drawn to paragraph 7 of the report, on the fostering of collaboration and partnerships within the United Nations system and other partners and its link to document A/67/6 (Prog. 7), paragraph 7.4.

Conclusions and recommendations

501. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services to include in its future recommendations, where possible, indicators that make the impact/result of implementing such recommendations measurable.**

Chapter III
Coordination questions

A. Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2013

502. At its 4th meeting, on 3 June 2014, the Committee considered the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2013 (E/2014/69).

503. The Director of CEB introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

504. Delegations welcomed the overview report of CEB for 2013 and recognized the importance of the role of the Board and its subsidiary bodies, especially as the international community continued to grapple with the aftermath of the global financial and economic crisis. Progress made by CEB in advancing coordination and coherence among the entities of the United Nations system across policy, management and operational matters was acknowledged.

505. Delegations emphasized the importance of ensuring that the work of CEB was guided by intergovernmental mandates. The coordination function of CEB was seen as essential by some delegations for improving the use of resources and maximizing their impact, as well as for avoiding duplication of work among United Nations entities and for improving the efficiency, effectiveness and adaptability of the United Nations system.

506. The annual overview report was seen as an important contribution to improving CEB transparency and accountability. A number of delegations expressed satisfaction about the fact that the report provided detailed information on the wide range of activities carried out under CEB. Although several delegations acknowledged that there was a limit to the number of items that could usefully be covered, several issues that had not been reflected in the report were identified by delegations as important. In the light of mandates calling for United Nations system entities to mainstream South-South cooperation into country-level programming and to support projects implemented by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, a number of calls were made for CEB to address that topic. Other matters not covered by the report but of interest to delegations included the transformative role of technology, the coordination of United Nations system entities in countries in conflict or emerging from conflict, and non-communicable diseases. Delegations also sought clarification on the reason for singling out comprehensive sexuality education in the education of youth.

507. Delegations enquired about the mandate to mainstream the rule of law into the work of the United Nations and reaffirmed the importance of peace and security, development and human rights as key United Nations mandates.

508. Delegations recognized CEB efforts to promote system-wide preparation for and follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits. Clarification was sought on the nature of the "joint contributions" of CEB to conferences and summits. A

number of delegations welcomed the CEB decision to hold a high-level side event at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States.

509. It was recalled that, at its previous session, the Committee had reaffirmed the importance of achieving the Millennium Development Goals and had welcomed the periodic review by CEB of their implementation at the country level. The view was expressed that coordinated action remained key to meeting the internationally agreed targets. Delegations voiced satisfaction that the CEB review of the implementation of the Goals had already begun to yield results, in particular with respect to the enhanced cooperation between the United Nations system and the World Bank Group. CEB was encouraged to continue its work to help Member States meet the Goals by 2015. A delegation sought reassurance that the CEB review did not duplicate action taken elsewhere. Another delegation requested more information on country-level bottlenecks and related solutions that had been identified in the reviews carried out to date. An enquiry was made as to whether CEB had reviewed progress towards the implementation of Goal 8 (global partnership for development).

510. Regarding the work of CEB in coordinating United Nations system-wide support in the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda, a query was raised about the High-level Committee on Programmes' review of the findings and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda entitled *A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development*. It was stressed that CEB should not attempt to prejudge the outcome of the intergovernmental debate on the post-2015 development agenda.

511. While reaffirming the importance of the coordination activities implemented by CEB as part of preparations for the post-2015 development agenda, serious concern was expressed about the decision of the United Nations system to support the key findings and recommendations of the above-mentioned report of the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. In that context, it was highlighted that the report had not been considered or acted upon by the General Assembly.

512. Delegations were largely supportive of the efforts of CEB to promote policy coherence and coordination within the United Nations system, for example in the areas of international migration and development, youth and climate change. Delegations sought further information regarding the mandates associated with cybercrime and cybersecurity.

513. Delegations noted the CEB activities on human rights and several of them expressed support for CEB efforts to integrate that issue into the work of the Board, underscoring the need for policy coherence in that area. It was stressed that human rights was a universal issue and that it was not relevant only to developing countries. Several delegations sought clarification regarding any linkages between human rights commitments and development goals, as well as more information on the deployment by the United Nations Development Group of human rights advisers to resident coordinator offices, including which country teams had received advisers and which countries had requested capacity-building assistance for the universal periodic review of the Human Rights Council. One delegation asked for clarification on mainstreaming human rights. A question was asked about the dissemination of

the United Nations Development Group publication *Mainstreaming Human Rights in Development: Stories from the Field.*

514. Questions were raised on the legislative basis for the deployment of human rights advisers to resident coordinator offices. Information was also requested on the legislative basis from the Human Rights Council and the United Nations Development Programme for such deployment. Strong opposition was expressed to any attempt to impose conditions on operational activities for development.

515. Regarding the work of CEB on enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact of United Nations operational activities for development, the work of UNDG on standard operating procedures for United Nations country teams was commended for having improved efficiencies at the country level. An enquiry was made about the status of "Delivering as one" initiatives.

516. CEB efforts to improve United Nations system administrative and management functions, in particular in human resources management and in common treasury services and procurement, were appreciated by delegations. The Board was encouraged to continue its work in harmonizing and simplifying business processes. On the joint United Nations system service facility in Brasilia, delegations expressed the view that it was important to underline the pilot nature of the initiative and await its conclusion before assessing whether it would generate savings from increased efficiencies and reduced transaction costs. A delegation requested information on the organizations that were part of the joint service centre. Clarification was sought as to whether CEB had made an effort to simplify country-level programme delivery, not just administrative services, which could also save money and increase impact in receiving communities. With regard to the new vendor registration system, several delegations expressed appreciation for CEB efforts to increase access to procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition and looked forward to learning more about results achieved by the initiative in the following annual overview report. Progress on the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards was noted. Clarification was also sought on the nature of the CEB role related to rates for short-term staff performing interpretation and translation functions.

517. Delegations observed that the strategic plans adopted by the High-level Committee on Management and the United Nations Development Group formed a sound basis for a results-oriented approach to coordination. A delegation asked about the alignment of the time frame of the strategic plans (2013-2016) with that of the strategic framework cycle. More information was requested on how the Board planned to respond to increased complexity, resource scarcity and other long-term trends in the United Nations operating environment.

518. Several delegations expressed appreciation for improvements made to the CEB website, in particular in the presentation of United Nations system statistics. An enquiry was made about the membership of CEB and its subsidiary bodies. Delegations welcomed the continued cooperation between CEB and the other jointly financed bodies.

Conclusions and recommendations

519. **The Committee noted the contributions of CEB in 2013 to the enhancement of United Nations system-wide coherence and coordination in policy, operational and management matters.**

520. **In particular, the Committee welcomed intensified efforts by CEB on system-wide preparation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences, as well as, inter alia, work to accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals through its High-level Committee on Programmes and an active approach in support of country-level efforts in order to achieve tangible results.**

521. **The Committee recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/292, had invited the Secretary-General, in his capacity as CEB Chair, to support a coordinated approach on multilingualism within the United Nations system. Stressing the importance of early action in the implementation of that resolution, the Committee recommended that the Assembly request the Board to provide information on its implementation and to report on future progress in its upcoming reports to the Committee.**

522. **The Committee recognized the continuous work of CEB on the harmonization and simplification of business practices and welcomed the opportunities for generating efficiencies by reducing administrative and procedural burdens, aiming at increasing the coherence, coordination, effectiveness, accountability and credibility of the United Nations system. In that regard, the Committee requested that it be informed of future progress and recommended that the General Assembly bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, the need to continue addressing this issue.**

523. **The Committee took note of the establishment of an integrated business service centre and of the launch of a joint United Nations system service facility in Brasilia and emphasized that the results of such initiatives in terms of efficiency and costs had yet to be determined.**

524. **The Committee welcomed the work of CEB on the implementation of good practices in performance management. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, through the High-level Committee on Management, to share examples of good experiences and lessons learned with the human resources directors of member organizations.**

525. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to promote among the funds and programmes, as well as specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system, the continuation of mainstreaming support for South-South cooperation into the regular country-level programming of operational activities for development.**

526. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request CEB to report on the results achieved by the new vendor registration system with regard to increasing the participation of developing countries and countries**

with economies in transition in the procurement processes of the United Nations system in accordance with existing rules and regulations.

527. **The Committee emphasized the key role to be played by CEB in ensuring coordinated United Nations system-wide support in the preparation of and follow-up to the post-2015 development agenda, in accordance with relevant intergovernmental mandates. For this purpose, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to include in the annual report of CEB to the Committee at its fifty-fifth session information on ways and means for strengthening that role to foster policy coherence in the United Nations system in order to ensure coordinated and effective action on the wide range of programmatic, management and operational issues linked to that global agenda.**

528. **The Committee took note of paragraph 16 of the report and, in that context, recalled paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 68/6, related to the beginning of the process for the intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda and, in that regard, reiterated the need for CEB to respect the relevant intergovernmental decisions during the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda.**

529. **The Committee noted the reference to the rule of law in paragraph 17 of the report and, in that context, recalled that the three main pillars of the United Nations were peace and security, development and human rights.**

530. **The Committee reiterated its recommendations to the General Assembly to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, the following concerns:**

(a) **The need to ensure that the Board's activities and initiatives, including those related to system-wide coherence, were in line with intergovernmental mandates;**

(b) **The need to ensure enhanced alignment of the measures of the High-level Committee on Management with the existing United Nations legislative framework, including in the area of procurement.**

531. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to continue the direct and substantive dialogue between CEB and Member States, in accordance with paragraph 4 of its resolution 64/289, in order to further enhance and strengthen the Board's transparency and accountability to Member States.**

B. United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

532. At its 4th meeting, on 3 June 2014, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (E/AC.51/2014/3).

533. The Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

534. Delegations expressed appreciation to the Special Adviser on Africa for the quality of his presentation and commended him on the comprehensiveness of the report. They voiced support for the work of the Office, in particular in strengthening the coherence and coordination of United Nations system support for NEPAD, and welcomed the progress achieved to date.

535. Delegations reaffirmed the priority of Africa in the global agenda and reiterated the importance of stepping up United Nations system support for all sectoral priorities of the Organization's work on Africa. They also reaffirmed their support for NEPAD and its initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, and for the Sustainable Energy for All initiative and the African Peer Review Mechanism. Support was also expressed for the monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development, as established in resolution 66/293.

536. While expressing appreciation for the significant achievements with regard to economic, social and political issues, delegations highlighted the importance of fostering inclusive growth and sustainable development in Africa. They emphasized the importance of infrastructure development, agriculture development and food security, climate change adaptation and resilience, sanitation, industrialization and value addition, economic diversification, the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, job creation, effective management of urbanization processes, poverty eradication and good governance, and peace and security for the transformation of Africa. It was recalled that 2014 was the Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa and a call was made to further fine-tune a global mechanism to deal with food security.

537. Delegations noted the dynamic nature of African development priorities, as encapsulated in the African Union Commission Strategic Plan 2014-2017, the NEPAD Strategic Plan 2014-2017 and the forthcoming African Union Agenda 2063, saying that there was a need to exert flexibility in aligning United Nations system support with current and emerging African development priorities.

538. Delegations emphasized the need to align the post-2015 development agenda with the priorities of Africa, as articulated in the recently adopted African common position on the post-2015 development agenda. They also emphasized the need to continue to strengthen coherence and coordination within the United Nations system in support of African development, in particular with the continuing consultations on the post-2015 development agenda. Some delegations stressed the need to closely coordinate that process with the sustainable development goals, as mandated in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and to ensure that sustainable development was central to the post-2015 development agenda.

539. Delegations stressed the importance of the nexus between peace, security and development and welcomed the global initiatives in support of the development of Africa, including the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and its recently adopted Yokohama Action Plan 2013-2017, in addition to other bilateral strategic partnerships with Africa. Delegations noted that there was a need, in supporting the development of Africa, also to give due consideration to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked

Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries.

540. Delegations underlined the need to strengthen regional and subregional integration mechanisms. A view was expressed that the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa and its nine clusters should be strengthened with adequate financial and human resources in order to enhance the implementation of cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union Commission and improve the coordination of United Nations system support for NEPAD at the regional level.

Conclusions and recommendations

541. **The Committee welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for NEPAD (E/AC.51/2014/3) and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 112 to 119 of the report.**

542. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to include, in his future reports, detailed information relating to the possible outcomes of the achievements of NEPAD targets.**

543. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly reiterate its request to the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote greater coherence in their work in support of NEPAD, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and called upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance.**

544. **The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to further strengthen the implementation of the African Union/NEPAD African Action Plan 2010-2015.**

545. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly emphasize the need for the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to continue to fully take into account the views, comments and/or input of the African Union and other regional and subregional mechanisms in their policy formulation and decision-making, mainly in the areas of mediation, conflict prevention and peace and security.**

546. **The Committee also recommended that the reports of the Secretary-General on NEPAD continue to include information not only on seminars, workshops and meetings but also on other tangible actions and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership throughout Africa, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, with regard to the resources.**

547. **The Committee recognized the important role played by the development of hard infrastructure in Africa, in particular energy, railways and highways, and recommended that the General Assembly reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize United Nations system support in that area, in particular for the initiatives of the regional economic communities.**

548. **The Committee emphasized the need for timely implementation of the mandate relating to the monitoring mechanism and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports provide detailed information on the status of the implementation of the mandate in that regard.**

Chapter IV

Provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Committee

549. In accordance with paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50, the Committee shall submit to the Council and to the Assembly, for their review, the provisional agenda for its fifty-fifth session, together with the required documentation.

550. In its decision 1983/163, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources, and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

551. The draft provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Committee is set out below. It has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative mandates and will be completed at the end of the present session in the light of the recommendations adopted by the Committee.

Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
   (a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 58/269 and 62/224);

   Documentation

   Relevant fascicles of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 58/269 and 62/224)

   Report of the Secretary-General: proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

   (b) Evaluation.

   Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives (General Assembly resolution 62/224)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the International Trade Centre (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the thematic evaluation of the monitoring and evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals: lessons learned (General Assembly resolution 68/20)

4. Coordination questions:

(a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

Documentation

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2014

(b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (General Assembly resolution 59/275)

5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session.

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fifth session.

Annex I

Agenda for the fifty-fourth session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
   (a) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013;
   (b) Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017;
   (c) Evaluation.
4. Coordination questions:
   (a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;
   (b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.
5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.
6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session.
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fourth session.

Annex II

List of documents before the Committee at its fifty-fourth session

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017

A/69/6 (Part one) and Corr.1	Part one: plan outline
	Part two: biennial programme plan
A/69/6 (Prog. 1)	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management
A/69/6 (Prog. 2)	Political affairs
A/69/6 (Prog. 3)	Disarmament
A/69/6 (Prog. 4)	Peacekeeping operations
A/69/6 (Prog. 5)	Peaceful uses of outer space
A/69/6 (Prog. 6)	Legal affairs
A/69/6 (Prog. 7)	Economic and social affairs
A/69/6 (Prog. 8)	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States
A/69/6 (Prog. 9)	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development
A/69/6 (Prog. 10)	Trade and development
A/69/6 (Prog. 11)	Environment
A/69/6 (Prog. 12)	Human settlements
A/69/6 (Prog. 13)	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice
A/69/6 (Prog. 14)	Gender equality and empowerment of women
A/69/6 (Prog. 15)	Economic and social development in Africa
A/69/6 (Prog. 16)	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific
A/69/6 (Prog. 17) and Corr.1	Economic development in Europe
A/69/6 (Prog. 18)	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean
A/69/6 (Prog. 19)	Economic and social development in Western Asia
A/69/6 (Prog. 20)	Human rights

A/69/6 (Prog. 21)	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees
A/69/6 (Prog. 22)	Palestine refugees
A/69/6 (Prog. 23)	Humanitarian assistance
A/69/6 (Prog. 24) and Corr.1	Public information
A/69/6 (Prog. 25)	Management and support services
A/69/6 (Prog. 26)	Internal oversight
A/69/6 (Prog. 27)	Jointly financed activities
A/69/6 (Prog. 28)	Safety and security

Other documents

A/69/144	Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013
E/2014/69	Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2013
E/AC.51/2014/1	Annotated provisional agenda
E/AC.51/2014/2	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fifty-first session on the programme evaluation of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs
E/AC.51/2014/3	Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development
E/AC.51/2014/L.1 and Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation
E/AC.51/2014/L.2	Note by the Secretariat on report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit
E/AC.51/2014/L.3/Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-fifth session of the Committee
E/AC.51/2014/L.4 and Add.1-33	Draft report of the Committee

E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1 and Add.1 and 2	Note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017: review of part two, biennial programme plan, by sectoral, functional and regional bodies
E/AC.51/2014/CRP.2	Note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017
E/AC.51/2014/INF/1	List of delegations

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